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Happy Easter From The Brooklyn Papers Happy Passover

BROOKLYN'S REAL NEWSPAPERS

The Brooklyn Paper

Including The Brooklyn Heights Paper, Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper, DUMBO Paper and the Downtown News

A Brooklyn Papers Publication

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HAIL MARY

Brooklyn's ship comes in Saturday

Associated Press / Cunard Cruise Lines

The Queen Mary 2 will be docking at its new Brooklyn home — in Red Hook — on Saturday.

By Ariella Cohen
The Brooklyn Papers

Leave it to a queen to come between brothers.

Red Hook dock workers — brothers in the same longshoreman's union — will split up on Saturday morning, April 15, one group unloading passengers and baggage from the glamorous Queen Mary 2, the other taking lumber and steel off a freighter called the Brasilia.

The long-awaited arrival of the QM2 is a historic moment in Red Hook — and not just because Brooklyn is welcoming the largest cruise ship in the world.

It also puts front and center two competing visions for the Red Hook waterfront — namely, whether Brooklyn's last working container port will survive or succumb to the newly arrived cruise ship industry.

Many longshoreman are hedging their bets. Nearly 100 union baggage handlers will jump to the cruise ship terminal from the container port today.

Two hundred others will remain with the fareless-feted cargo, their fate in the hands of city officials, who say they will not renew the container port operator's lease when it expires next year.

Through it all, the union brothers vow to get along.

"I'm not going to yell at anyone for working over there," said one crane operator at the container port. "The cruise ship terminal is better than the one in Bayonne, better than the one in Manhattan. But it will only be beautiful as long as we still have our jobs over here."

New Dems locked out

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

Clubhouse politics in Brooklyn was thrown into turmoil last week after one supposedly influential club barred more than 100 new members from its upcoming endorsement vote — even though they all signed up on time.

The board of Independent Neighborhood Democrats voted in secret to move up its long-scheduled May 18 endorsement vote so that the flood of members — supporters of congressional candidate Chris Owens and others from the anti-Atlantic Yards group, Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn — would not be eligible to pick candidates for the club to endorse.

The board's April 6 vote set off a round of charges that the board didn't want Owens to "steal" the endorsement for the 11th congressional district from City Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) — and counter-charges that Owens and others were "packing" the club at the last minute.

"These 100 people came in to pack our club and I'll be damned if I'm going to let 'em get away with it!" said Buddy Scotto of Carroll Gardens, a founding member of the IND.

"[Candidates] went out and rounded up relatives and friends. That ain't cricket."

But Owens and others slammed IND right back — leveling pretty much the same charge.

"Changing the endorsement vote is an injustice against anyone who joined prior to the long-stated deadline," said Owens, whose IND membership precedes the current rhubarb and, as such, says it is his "job" to find new members.

"I know I brought in nine people," he said. "And I know they joined on time. Reform-minded clubs should stick to the rules."

Though independent in name, IND is affiliated with Assemblywoman Joan Millman (D-Park Slope) and state Sen. Martin Connor (D-Brooklyn Heights).

When the flood of new members rolled in, Millman and executive board Chairman Kenn Lowy dove into the surf, sources said.

"Joan and Kenn were looking over the list and saying, 'This is trouble,'" said one club member.

The club was particularly threatened by a flood of new members who might support Ken Diamondstone, a former community board member who is challenging Connor, a founding member of the club.

"Think about how embarrassing it would be if Connor lost IND's endorsement," the source said. "The club couldn't let that happen."

Lowy agreed that a Connor loss would

See **PACK'EM** on page 3

GO BROOKLYN THIS WEEK

BAM / Craig Schwartz

Seeing Red-grave

Actress Lynn Redgrave stars in Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" at the BAM Harvey Theatre, April 18 through May 14. An interview with director Sir Peter Hall is in GO Brooklyn, page 7.

Beetles are back in Brooklyn

THE BROOKLYN ANGLE By Gersh Kuntzman

HE'S BAAAACK. She's baaaack. And their kids are baaack, too. Fortunately, so are the unsung heroes of the United States Department of Agriculture — who are back on the streets in a violent, block-by-block, house-to-house, tree-to-tree battle against the Asian longhorned beetle.

Violent? Sure. When you're dealing with an implacable foe who has killed 2,200 trees since landing in Greenpoint in 1996, you can't be afraid to pump some defenseless street tree with eight cups of pesticide.

And you can't be too timid to not knock on every door in Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Bedford-Stuyvesant, East New York and Ridgewood — all neighborhoods that have been affected by the winged, Far Eastern scourge.

The other day found Joe Gittleman, the USDA's Asian beetle authority, leading a team of four tree saviors on Quincy Street in Bed-Stuy.

First stop, the backyard of Dorothy Sherman, who happily allows Gittleman's team to inject her 50-foot silver maple, planted by her father more than a half-century ago.

"It's a member of the family," says Sherman ("like the tank," she adds when asked how it's spelled).

While the pesticide drains into the roots, the team inspects the tree with binoculars. Gittleman thinks he's spotted the perfectly round holes that the beetles chew on their way out of an infested tree, so he orders a team of climbers to return for a face-to-branch inspection.

Sherman again welcomes the attention. Other Brooklynites are not so inviting.

"We'd like to get all 22,000 trees in the affected area," Gittleman says, "but not everyone lets us into his backyard."

Almost on cue, a woman at the next house refuses to allow the crew in, even though the USDA has a signed release from her daughter. Gittlemen's team reschedules the appointment.

Seconds later, though, a homeowner from down the block strolls over and begs the team to inspect his tree.

Gittleman and company are pleased to oblige.

"That kind of thing happens a lot," he said later. "We put out flyers, send out notifications, make phone calls, but people only respond when we physically hit the block. People see us and realize it's not a scam. They say, 'Is this free? Well why didn't you call me about my tree?' "

In most cases, the USDA did — hoping to limit the beetles' consumption to just a few areas and prevent a recurrence of what happened in Greenpoint, when the under-arbored neighborhood lost 900 trees in the beetles' first assault.

Now, with crews working six days a week, Gittleman hopes they'll hit all 22,000 elms, planes, maples, horsechestnuts and other tooth-some trunks favored by the Asian long-horned beetle.

"Luckily," he said, "there are a lot of trees they don't eat. Yet."

10 PLAGUES OF BROOKLYN

Lousy bagels

Gowanus Canal

Chuck E. Cheese

No late-night cabs

Bones on the subway

Overdevelopment

Lice
(some things never change)

Traffic

Manhattanification

Baby discrimination

THE PASSOVER CELEBRATION — marked by Jews worldwide this week — features a recitation of the 10 plagues visited upon the ancient Egyptians as punishment for enslaving the Israelites. Inspired by the story, read every year from the Passover Seder's Haggadah, The Brooklyn Papers asked renowned graphic artist Roxanna Velandria, of Park Slope, to create a modern set of plagues, suitable for 21st-century Brooklyn. All your favorite pet-peeves about our Kingly lives are here — from the traffic we endure to the lice our schoolchildren pick up to the chicken bones that we find underneath the subway seat we didn't get. Our Passover coverage also includes news of a radical (and raucous) Haggadah written by opponents of Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards mega-development (see page 4). So join us as we lift a glass or two (or four!) of Manischewitz and toast the holiday season. L'chaim!

— Gersh Kuntzman

NYC Department of Sanitation

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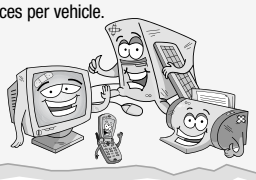

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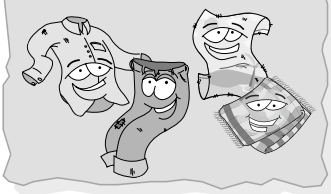

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City of New York, Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Department of Sanitation, John J. Doherty, Commissioner

Have I got a question for you!

Cobble Hill forum gives candidates chance to confront each other

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Papers

Why is this candidates' forum different from all other candidates' forum? Because the Independent Neighborhood Democrats added a fun twist: they let the five candidates for a rare open congressional seat ask each other questions.

True, last week's forum featured lots of the same old speechifying by the five candidates — state Sen. Carl Andrews (D-Crown Heights), City Councilwoman Yvette Clarke (D-Flatbush), Chris Owens, Assemblyman Nick Perry (D-Flatbush) and City Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights). But the face-to-face queries did reveal some interesting tidbits about the men and woman hoping to succeed retiring Rep. Major Owens (D-Crown Heights):

• Yassky is seen by his rivals as the man to beat (judging from how many questions he got asked).

• Even when given the chance to confront each other, politicians will always miss a chance to stick in the knife.

Owens, for example, only alluded to race in his question — even though he has said that Yassky should not be running for Congress in the mostly black district because of his race. Yassky asked Andrews about corruption, but never linked him — as he could have — to disgraced former county leader Clarence Norman. And Andrews basically punted his question, asking two rivals that old student council question, "What would you do if elected?"

The good news is that this race could still get ugly, judging from the faint hints the candidates gave at the April 6 forum. Here is a slightly edited transcript of the five questions and their answers:

Marksman: Chris Owens
Target: David Yassky
Question: David, in 2005, you started a campaign for district attorney. You saw that there were three white candidates in the race and one black candidate in the race, and you decided to run instead for reelection to the city council. And then, after this club had endorsed Joe Hynes for reelection as DA, you endorsed [opponent] John Sampson. And that was after … Sampson had been rated unqualified by a number of bodies. Would you explain your endorsement?

Answer: In early 2005 ... I decided two things: One, that [Hynes] did not deserve to remain in office, and I stand by that belief, and two, that my skills ... were best used as a legislator. So I never really launched a campaign. I did support John Sampson, and I think that tells you a few things about me. First of all, that I'm going to take the tough stand, I'm not going to duck it ... [Sampson] was [the] one viable alternative to [Hynes] ... I think the question is, Are you a reformer who showed independence? Absolutely, I am.

Marksman: Carl Andrews
Targets: Nick Perry and Chris Owens
Question: Could you name one thing that ... you can guarantee you can do as a freshman [member of congress]?
Nick Perry: Thank you, Carl, for that very easy question. As a freshman, I'll have a seat in the House, and I'll have a vote, and I'll make sure that when I vote, I vote for ... the best benefit of my community, the people who sent me there. I'm going to make sure that my vote is right on progressive issues. I'm going to vote against efforts to attack pensions systems, [against] creating incentives for corporations and corporate executives to rob the American workforce.

Chris Owens: I'm going to do all those things too. But to answer the question, the one specific thing that I believe that I can do as a freshman is to follow up on my proposal that all small businesses — businesses that gross $1 million or less — be made tax exempt totally at the federal level. I believe that can happen because Republicans like tax cuts … And I believe that … small businesses are the key to jobs, to keeping families together and to providing opportunities for the future.

Marksman: David Yassky
Target: Carl Andrews
Question: Do you believe the Brooklyn Democratic Party has had a corruption problem? And if so, what would you do to try and change it?

Andrews: My commitment to local politics and local issues will always be paramount to whatever I do. But…as a member of Congress, we have very pressing issues that need to be addressed ... The Brooklyn Democratic Party, if they are corrupt, and if they have anything that warrants legal intervention, I'm sure that the district attorney, the prosecutors of this great eastern district, have and will continue to see ... if they can find any corruption. The party ... has not been indicted for anything or convicted of anything; members of the party have ... So, I don't know exactly what kind of corruption you are referring to specifically. I've heard that there have been some decisions made about Clarence Norman, and things that he has done as an individual. So, if you know something, let me know. I've got this guy I know named Eliot Spitzer, who I'll call and make sure that his public integrity unit looks at it.

Markswoman: Yvette Clark
Target: David Yassky
Question: I've been able to amass ... contributions from ... people who reside in our community and who own businesses in the community. But you've gotten most of your contributions from corporate entities, lawyers and special interests. And when I look at what's happening in Washington D.C. right now, with respect to the level of pressure that our elected officials are under [from] special interests … what would you say to reassure the people of the 11th congressional district that the special interests that are invested in you will not impede your ability to deal with the very important issues that impact on the lives of the individuals within our community?

Yassky: The level of support that has come to this campaign shows that we are actually doing something a little different ... We're talking about ideas. And, that is what has attracted that level of support. My support has come from environmentalists, from people who believe in gun control, and most important to me, from people, many in the district, and some outside of the district, who are ardent Democrats who want to see us win something for a change and know that if they send me down there, they're going to get a Democratic party…that is going to fight issue by issue by issue and beat the Republicans and actually get our stuff done. I'm proud that our campaign has attracted more support than any open-seat campaign in the country.

Marksman: Nick Perry
Target: David Yassky
Question: I was reading this [Yassky campaign] pamphlet, and I was reading, "Remember when they passed laws like … the Violence Against Women act, the Assault Weapons Ban? Councilman David Yassky doesn't just remember them, he wrote them."

Today, I had one of my staff people speak with former Sen. Metzenbaum, and he assured me that it was he who wrote that bill and introduced it in 1987, some time before Councilman Yassky reached Washington. David, who wrote the Brady Bill?

Yassky: Well, of course, many people did, as you well know, as with any legislation. At that time, I was the chief counsel for the crime subcommittee in the House of Representatives when the version that actually passed of the Brady Bill was written. I have no doubt—I know for a fact—that Senator Metzenbaum was the first person to introduce it in the Senate. My then-boss Chuck Schumer introduced it in the House. And did I draft important sections of that bill? Absolutely I did. Did many other people have a hand in passing that bill? Of course they did.

PACK'EM...

Continued from page 1

have been embarrassing for the longtime senator, but said the endorsement vote — now scheduled for April 20 and May 4 — should not have been moved.

"Now the club is going to get a lot of bad press," he said.

"Club-packing" is a common phenomenon in Brooklyn. In years past, candidates have successfully swelled club memberships on the eve of an endorsement vote and walked away with this supposedly vital plum, a lingering vestige of the days when local clubs were vital.

Before the 2001 mayoral primary, Mark Green's supporters joined the gay and lesbian Lambda Independent Democrats and swung the endorsement away from Alan Hevesi.

More recently, supporters of district attorney candidate Mark Peters joined IND at the last minute last year and almost swiped the endorsement away from incumbent Charles Hynes.

Millman said such shenanigans encouraged the board to change the rule.

"If they join just to influence the endorsement vote, it's not fair," she said. "We wanted to ensure that the people who have been around for a long time are the ones making the decisions."

But at least one newcomer felt the vote-change was a betrayal of the club's name.

"They set a deadline and then didn't like who joined," said Daniel Goldstein, spokesman for Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn, and a new member of the club.

The Brooklyn Papers file / Tom Callan

Martin Connor

"There's nothing independent, neighborly or democratic about changing the rules."

Other clubs have been confronting the same issue, but only IND pulled up the welcome mat.

Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats, which has about 300 members, had 100 newcomers join just before its deadline. Despite the flood, the new members will vote at the endorsement meeting on May 18, said club President Josh Skaller.

Lambda President Gary Parker said his club had an influx of a few dozen people — but also decided not to change its rules.

The Brooklyn Papers file / Tom Callan

Joan Millman

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BROOKLYN
BRIEFS

Birthin' Britney unveiled

The Brooklyn Papers

The birthin' Britney Spears sculpture that caused labor-inducing contractions in pro-life circles finally descended upon Brooklyn last week — and its sculptor said that controversy was his intention all along.

Furor had erupted a week before the April 7 unveiling of Daniel Edwards's "Monument to Pro-Life: The Birth of Sean Preston" when Williamsburg's Capla Kesting Fine Art gallery released photos of the piece.

The sculpture depicts a naked Spears crouched on all fours atop a bear-skin rug she is giving birth, the crown of her son's head just emerging from the part of the sculpture that can't be printed in a family paper.

The opening made for a peculiar scene at the garage-cum-gallery at 121 Roebling St. Fifty-odd hipsters and a handful of press sipped wine from plastic cups as they peered awkwardly at the flesh-colored and highly erotic sculpture of Spears, named in honor of the pro-life movement.

No wonder the anti-abortion groups were offended.

"They said she wasn't wholesome enough to be a model for pro-life," Edwards said at the opening party. "I think shame on them."

Then again, Edwards is not a pro-lifer — at least as the anti-abortion crowd defines that politically charged term.

"I'm trying to broaden the definition [of pro-life] a little bit," he said. "I think you need to expand it to include the idea of giving birth."

And, he admitted, to include a hefty dose of controversy.

"Artists don't try to reach a large-enough audience anymore," complained Edwards, saying his true aim was to provoke discussion.

But not everyone thinks he succeeded.

Emma Pearse, a writer who attended the opening, was bothered by the piece, as well as by Edwards's use of the abortion debate to generate press.

"I'm always disappointed by this kind of art, because often when I talk to the artist, he doesn't have much to say," said Pearse.

— Dana Rubinstein

Underground RR to be buried again?

The Brooklyn Papers / Liz Cooper

Joy Chatel, owner of 227 Duffield St., claims this filled-in portal led to a possible hidden room that at one point could have housed slaves along the Underground Railroad.

The Brooklyn Papers

The Downtown Brooklyn Plan will destroy a historic way station on the Underground Railroad, residents of homes near the Fulton Mall claimed this week.

The city has said it will tear down homes on Duffield Street, near Willoughby Street, to make room for a new hotel, according to Louis Greenstein, owner of 223 Duffield St.

Greenstein, along with fellow Duffield homeowner Joy Chatel, are spearheading the fight to preserve their homes — and their place in American history — by demanding that the city fully investigate the historical claims before swinging the wrecking ball.

On Tuesday, Greenstein and Chatel — and a handful of supporters — marched from Duffield Street across the Brooklyn Bridge to City Hall to ask Mayor Bloomberg to step in.

Chatel gave reporters a tour of the sub-basement where she says slaves were hidden on their way to freedom. A dark, dusty and narrow stairwell led into the cellar below her storefront beauty parlor into a tight space with little light. Cobwebs swayed from the low ceiling and the dirt floor contributed to omnipresent dust.

Chatel crouched and pointed out a wall underneath the circuit-breakers that she claims concealed a hiding place. Nearby, a second entrance to the sub-basement led to an underground tunnel that connected several Duffield Street houses. Greenstein said his research revealed that abolitionists lived in at least five houses on the block.

"We need to investigate with archeologists, not consultants," said Bill Batson, a candidate for the state Assembly, who helped organize the rally.

The Downtown Brooklyn Plan, which rezoned a large swath of Brooklyn's central business district in 2004, will result in 4.5 million square feet of new office space, several skyscrapers and a park.

— Liz Cooper

New security camera in Q train station

The Brooklyn Papers

Big Brother really *is* watching you.

New York City Transit quietly installed eight security cameras in the Seventh Avenue Q train station in Park Slope — and the Orwellian purpose is to record "passenger identity at the turnstiles," said James Anyansi, a transit spokesman.

"This program enables us to monitor and keep records of events at our fare control areas and to reduce crime."

The images will be retained for 45 days, he said.

The program — part of a $20-million effort to put cameras in 60 stations system-wide, including 20 in Brooklyn — is either a crime-buster or a dire invasion of personal privacy, depending on whom you ask.

"The city needs to be asking itself about the increasingly massive use of surveillance cameras," said Bob Perry of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

"What are the rules regarding access to surveillance tapes? How will the department prevent unauthorized access to these images? What's the protocol for archiving and destruction? These issues directly implicate fundamental rights."

Even those who have lobbied for security cameras for years were hardly overjoyed.

"I hope it will improve rider safety," said Craig Hammerman, district manager for Community Board 6. "But…do they have sufficient manpower to respond to conditions if they are observed?"

The program was funded with $5 million from the federal Office of Defense Preparedness and $15 million from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority security budget.

It is independent of the MTA plan announced in August 2005 to install 1,000 closed-circuit television cameras and 3,000 motion detectors citywide.

— Rubinstein

A Ratner Haggadah

The Brooklyn Papers

Jews all over the world sat down for their Passover Seders Wednesday night — but it's safe to say none celebrated the way Atlantic Yards opponents did.

Several objectors to Bruce Ratner's mega-development penned an anti-Ratner parody of the Jewish Haggadah and used it at Seders this week.

In this "Very Brooklyn Haggadah," the four questions don't include, "Why is this night different from all other nights?" but, rather, "Why is it that in all other projects, buildings stand straight, but in Frank Gehry's designs, the buildings recline to one side?"

There's also a raucous, Ratner-ripping version of the classic Passover song, "Dayeinu" — which means "enough." (For the full Haggadah, see www.leathertomato.com.)

Nets new rap says Ratner's the man

The Brooklyn Papers

A contest to pick a rap theme song for the New Jersey Nets was won by an aspiring rapper who — surprise surprise — mentioned what a great job owner Bruce Ratner is doing with the Atlantic-Division-leading franchise.

"Check the skybox/Blackberry active/Making transactions/It's Bruce Ratner!!" sings rapper Michael Barnes in "Going Hard."

Ratner's Nets partner, rapper Jay-Z, created the contest earlier this year in hopes of finding a song that would pump up the volume at the Continental Airlines Arena. Does Barnes's "song" fill the bill? We invite our readers to judge. Here are the lyrics:

— Kuntzman

Get outta your seats
It's time for tip off
One tip y'all
Don't get Carter ticked off
Any play
He's bound to take off
Highlights
I don't think you seen his list, dogs
* * * * *
I Kidd
Is known for the criss-cross
Up court
Them looks away for a dish off
Krstic is postin'
RJ's open
Kidd lays it up like
Sorry I missed y'all
Nets basketball off the WALL
Competition come one come ALL
New Jersey rise, other team FALLS
In this arena, it's time to BALL
It's hot
We warmin' up
Halftime
Our score is up
Third
They can't score with us
End of the fourth
Guess who's score is up? (The Nets)!!
* * * * *
We brought Kidd from the Suns
Vince from the Raptors
Elite in East
Since Erving was in the rafters
Check the skybox
Blackberry active
Making transactions
It's Bruce Ratner!!
Date by date
Different state
Curfew applied by Coach Lawrence Frank
But wait
Introducing the brand new don it's
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Tuesday, April 25, 2006 — 6-8pm

COMPUTER INFORMATION SCIENCE AND CYBERSECURITY
Tuesday, April 25, 2006 — 6-8pm

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING & BIOINFORMATICS
Wednesday, April 26, 2006 — 6-8pm

INTEGRATED DIGITAL MEDIA
Thursday, April 27, 2006 — 6-8pm

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Judge not crazy after all

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Papers

A respected Brooklyn judge was declared mentally incompetent, forcibly removed from his residence, and placed in a nursing home — all, he says, because he was planning a run against District Attorney Charles Hynes in 2001.

Sealed court documents obtained by The Brooklyn Papers seem to back up civil court Judge John Phillips, revealing that the two doctors who examined him during his competency hearing did not think that he needed 24-hour nursing home assistance.

The judge has returned to the public eye recently, thanks to the efforts of the Committee to Free Judge Phillips to have him released into the care of his niece.

On April 4, the judge shuffled into Judge Micheal Pesce's courtroom in a rumpled black trench coat, his hair disheveled, but his stature still imposing. Friends and family filled the benches, hopeful that Phillips would be released into his niece's custody that day.

Their hopes were misplaced. Judge Pesce requested more details from the niece about how she would care for her uncle.

Judge Phillips, formerly known as the "kung-fu" judge for his courtroom antics, lost his freedom, and his $10-million estate, in 2001 when he was placed under the guardianship of two attorneys — one of whom was Hynes's former chief of staff.

While Hynes has said that he was just trying to protect an addled Phillips from extortion, opponents of the long-time DA see something more sinister in the role his aides played in denying Phillips his freedom.

"Hynes didn't want to run against a respected black judge in Brooklyn who was worth $10 million," said John O'Hara, a political activist with a long-standing beef with Hynes.

So Hynes had Phillips committed, O'Hara said. Court papers echo that sentiment: "Judge Phillips was forced to withdraw based upon the fact that DA Hynes's office instituted a guardianship proceeding against him, seizing all of his extensive real estate holdings."

But the sealed court documents obtained by The Brooklyn Papers show that Phillips did not need to be committed.

At the competency hearing, Dr. Lisa Honkanen of New York-Presbyterian Hospital said Phillips needed only "a few hours" of care per day, not the round-the-clock coverage that Hynes's people were recommending. Psychiatrist James Lynch agreed.

"Judge Phillips is not in any acute danger," he said.

Despite the testimony of these experts, the court authorized Phillips's removal from his home, claiming that he needed the 24-hour care that only a nursing home could provide.

But three years later, that claim still wasn't true.

In 2004, Phillips was so healthy that his nursing home refused to ask Medicare to cover Phillips's expenses, saying that Phillips only needed "oral medications, assistance with … daily activities and general supportive services," not "a professional nurse or therapist."

At the hearing last week, Judge Pesce said he thought the end of his colleague's involuntary internment would soon end.

"What's important now is to get him back into the community," Pesce said.

No one agrees more than Judge Phillips. Back in May, 2005, he told Judge Pesce in a letter that "there is no medical condition or otherwise requiring that I remain here."

CHECKIN' IN WITH...

Martin Schreibman, The Sex God of Brooklyn

To outsiders, Brooklyn College professor Martin Schreibman is a well-liked academic who runs the school's Aquatic Research and Environmental Assessment Center. But insiders know him as "the Sex God." That's because Schreibman, best known for ground-breaking research into the mating rituals of horseshoe crabs, mans the switches on AREAC's big, fish-filled tanks. When he wants those tilapia, clown fish and crabs to get on with getting' it on, he turns up the temperature a few degrees ("and don't forget the romantic music," he added). With all that fornicating going on, no wonder the New York Post called him "the sex god of Brooklyn" a few years ago. Schreibman checked in with Gersh Kuntzman this week.

Q: How has life changed for you since the Post gave you your nickname?

A: For a while, I was getting more dates, but then I got married, which got me a lot more dates (I'm joking, honey. I'll be home at 6!). And Borough President Markowitz gave me a proclamation about our work that called me the "Aqua-Sex God," which was nice, too. No question the nickname will look good in my Times obit.

Q: So what are you working on now?

A: We have been raising tilapia in hopes of developing sustainable, environmentally friendly fish-farming. But we've been feeding the fish other fish — and it takes three pounds of fish meal for every one pound of fish growth. So now we're feeding them algae, which will not only be environmentally sound, but actually raise the omega-3 fatty acids so the fish will be even more nutritious.

Q: But what's the long-term goal? I mean, there are a lot of fish in the sea, aren't there?

A: Yes, but we're working with food pantries to help them grow fish so people can have fresh protein. They buy the tanks and we show them how to do it. It's like I always say: If you teach a man to fish, he eats for a day. If you teach a man to grow a fish, he eats forever.

Q: And the other good news is that horseshoe crab mating season is almost here. I understand that's an exciting time for you.

A: And not just for me, but for the crabs, too. In late May, you'll see them all around Jamaica Bay. At the full moon, the female will ride in on the high tide with two or three males mounted on her back. She deposits 80,000 eggs in the sand and the males fertilize them. I don't want to say it's erotic, but I have brought dates there to watch. I even brought you there once.

Q: Would you be quiet about that?! My wife doesn't know!

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Big bonuses for bankrupt Bklyn Hospital executives?

By Susan Cosier
The Brooklyn Papers

Bankrupt Brooklyn Hospital went to court this week for permission to give more than $1 million in bonuses to administrators — while nurses work without a contract and complain of low pay.

The Fort Greene hospital filed for bankruptcy last September — three months after the nurses' contract expired — and now needs a judge's approval before it can spend money, including rewarding key executives.

"Giving bonuses is a complete slap in the face," said Camille Edwards, a spokeswoman for the nurses' union. "The nurses have been faithful, dedicated, and committed. Trust totally went out the window [when the hospital filed for the executives' bonuses]."

Federal bankruptcy Judge Clara Craig will rule next month on whether the hospital can give $200,000 bonuses to Chief Financial Officer Richard Braun, Chief Operating Officer Paul Albertson, and Chief Executive Officer Sam Lehrfeld, bonuses that would amount to 50 percent of the executives' $400,000 salaries.

Other execs at the hospital are in line for smaller bonuses, court papers show.

Hospital officials defended the gravy as a way to keep key employees from seeking better jobs.

"We wanted to make sure the key management team stayed with us," hospital board Chairman Jonathan Weld told the judge, adding that five key executives have already bolted for greener pastures.

But Edwards said any available cash should be spent on the people who actually do "the hard work" at a hospital — the nurses.

Lehrfeld received a three-percent raise in 2005 and another three-percent hike in January — after the hospital had already filed for bankruptcy protection.

The nurses received a one-percent raise in 2005.

The bonuses would not directly affect contract negotiations between nurses and the hospital, said union rep Jeff Schioppa.

"But it's going to affect the morale of the hospital," he said. "It already has."

Rep. Ed Towns (D-Fort Greene), Brooklyn Hospital CEO Sam Lehrfeld, Borough President Markowitz and state Sen. Carl Andrews (D-Crown Heights) at last year's hospital gala.

Slope lesbians on White House 'roll'

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

They're here, they're queer and they're going to the Easter Egg Roll at the White House — thanks to a Brooklyn couple.

Park Slopers Colleen Gillespie and Alisa Surkis will lead the estimated 200 gay and lesbian families that plan on attending Monday's traditional holiday event at the president's house.

Gillespie and Surkis took their 3-year-old daughter, Ella, to the egg roll last year, but it was rained out. So this year, they decided to organize dozens of other gay and lesbian families to show up en masse.

"We want our daughter to have fun, of course, but also want to have our families be visible at a great American event," Surkis said.

Critics said the gay families are just trying to politicize a kid's event that dates back to the late 1800s.

"It's facetious … to say they're not making a political statement," Mark D. Tooley, the director of the United Methodist committee at the Institute on Religion and Democracy, told the New York Times.

Park Slopers Colleen Gillespie (left) and Alisa Surkis hold their daughter Ella. All three will attend Monday's Easter egg roll at the White House.

But Surkis called that argument "backwards."

"We're not the ones who made our families political," she said. "Our families have been attacked for political gain — and the way they do it is by dehumanizing us. So the only way to fight back is to show who we are: real families with real children."

Surkis said the gay and lesbian families would be very visible, thanks to rainbow-colored silk leis. She doesn't think the accessory will stand in the way of her, Gillespie and Ella's entrance.

"I not aware of any White House policy against wearing a lei to the egg roll," she said.

Of course, it's not the first time that the Easter Egg Roll has had a political subtext. In 1953, Mamie Eisenhower was apparently so appalled that there were no black children at the event that the next year, the egg roll was finally desegregated.

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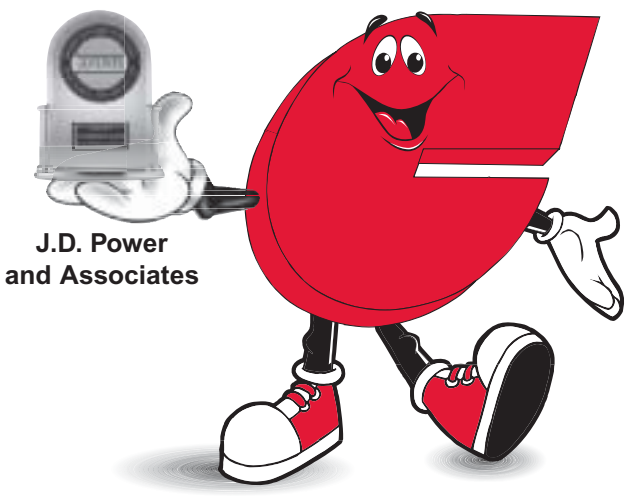

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Scam with a schmeer

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

A thief claimed to see a stain on a man's jacket and offered to clean it off, but ended up cleaning $1,800 from his victim's pockets on April 3, police said.

The trickster approached the 74-year-old man inside the F-train station at Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street, around 12:40 pm. Police think he followed the man from a nearby bank, where the victim cashed several checks.

"You have something on your jacket," the thief said as he neared the victim. The elderly man accepted the stranger's offer of help to clean off the "stain." But moments later, the victim realized his money was no longer in his pants pocket.

The "helpful" thief is a white Hispanic man, around age 25, 5-foot-9 and 180 pounds, police said.

Up & down

A 14th Street resident came face to face with the thief — but before she realized he had just robbed her apartment.

The burglar crept inside her home, off Seventh Avenue, around 1:30 pm on April 4, police said. An errand lured the 21-year-old tenant to the building's basement, but when she heard footsteps upstairs, she ran up to the first floor in time to see the burglar outside her front door.

"I'm just looking for a bag," the prowler offered, before he bolted along 14th Street, heading towards Seventh Avenue. When the victim returned to her apartment, she discovered her Xbox game and two laptops had disappeared.

She described the thief as a white Hispanic man, 5-foot-10, 150 pounds, with short dark hair, dressed that day in a tan, waist-length jacket.

POLICE

McKnuckle

An argument between two recovering addicts led to a violent assault at a Ninth Street fast-food joint on April 4, police said.

Words erupted between two men, both age 39, around 1:30 pm at the burger emporium, between Fourth and Fifth avenues. When things grew violent, a man known as "Mack" donned a pair of brass knuckles and slugged his acquaintance in the face, leaving him with a bloody nose.

The iron-fisted thug fled along Ninth Street, but didn't get far. Police arrested the man on assault charges later that day. Apparently the two men knew each other from a substance abuse group.

Home in time

Maybe sticky fingers and magic hands don't go together.

An Eighth Avenue resident got home in time to see someone stealing a mechanical massager from his apartment, at Third Street, police said.

The 45-year-old resident noticed the stranger leaving his home around 12:25 pm on April 3. Police recovered the $30 machine and arrested the 51-year-old thief.

Boerum vandals

Vandals busted into the locker area of a Boerum Hill public pool complex on April 3, police said.

A 38-year-old parks employee said she left the locker room of the Double D pool for only a few moments, around 2 pm, and returned to find damage to the lockers, desks and cabinets. The vandals left their mark, but didn't take anything from the Parks Department facility, off Nevins Street near Third Avenue.

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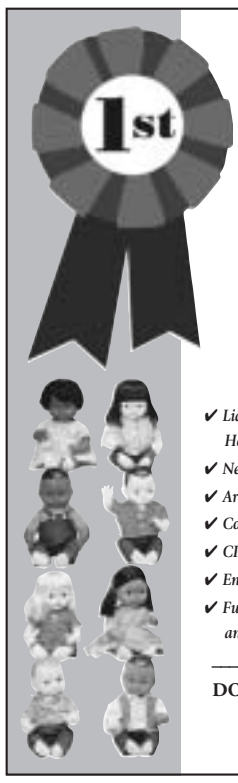

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Big bonuses at bankrupt hospital

Rep. Ed Towns (D-Fort Greene), Brooklyn Hospital CEO Sam Lehrfeld, Borough President Markowitz and state Sen. Carl Andrews (D-Crown Heights) at last year's hospital gala.

By Susan Cosier
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ADVERTISER FOCUS

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Is your daughter into rock climbing and mini-bowling?

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All this and more awaits you at Madd Fun, a 41,000-square-foot, air conditioned fun and games facility, owned and operated by a local family. From Park Slope, it is a 20-minute drive along the Belt and Jackie Robinson parkways to this East New York amusement center. Madd Fun is also accessible by public transportation on the L train (E. 105th Street station) or B20, B60, B6 and B82 buses.

Birthday parties are a breeze at Madd Fun. After an hour of romping with friends on rides and interactive entertainment, your party guests will enjoy a great meal (choose from hot dogs, Chinese, Caribbean or pizza), cake, balloons and party bags in one of eight private party rooms. Then they can use their tokens on electronic games and win prizes with the tickets they earn.

Rides at Madd Fun include a carousel, bumper cars, Dumbo plane ride, mini train and mini roller coaster.

For interactive entertainment, choose from the Lazer Tag arena, mini bowling, arcade with video games, ball pit with tunnels and tube slides, electronic prize winning games and a rock-climbing wall.

Educational activities range from computer learning forums to arts and crafts.

While all children must be accompanied by adults (just as adults must accompany kids), Madd Fun has plenty of on-site security; additional adults can enjoy a shopping trip to the nearby Gateway Estates retail shopping center, with Target, Home Depot, BJ's Old Navy, Circuit City, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Marshall's and Staples. Your whole crew can enjoy dinner at Red Lobster, Olive Garden, or Boulder Creek after a full day of Madd Fun play.

Madd Fun is located at 303 Stanley Ave. at Hinsdale Avenue. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, noon to 9 pm; Fridays, noon to 10 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 am to 10 pm. To book your party, or for more information, call (718) 498-9002.

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‘Bridal Row’ thrives without Kleinfeld’s

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Papers

The jilted businesses along Bay Ridge’s famed Bridal Row have news for the bride who abandoned them: We’re doing just fine without you.

Kleinfeld Bridal — a monster-sized, one-stop bridal shop in Bay Ridge — caused an uproar last summer when it abruptly abandoned Fifth Avenue for greener pastures in Manhattan.

But the remaining community of tuxedo shops, jewelers, florists and gift stores that had developed in harmony with the bridal emporium — and which pundits said would never survive — is doing quite nicely, thank you, after a brief dip in business.

“We have more appointments than we can handle now,” said Alice Sena, manager of Sposabella Couture bridal shop, just down the block from the former Kleinfeld’s.

Dante Zeller Tuxedo, directly across from the former bridal behemoth, was also expected to wither in its absence. But manager Randy Raymond said the store is also getting along well.

“Kleinfeld’s leaving hurt the whole neighborhood,” said Raymond. “But with us, it’s just hurt the walk-ins” — which represent only 4 percent of the overall business, he said.

“Fortunately,” Raymond said, “this is still an active neighborhood.”

Basil Capatanakis, a Realtor and mortgage broker with 14 Apollo Associates, summed up the general mood nicely: “Losing Kleinfeld is not the end of the world.”

But some shops have had a harder time getting over the break-up.

Beverly Trimming, which sells vintage buttons, fabric and lace on Fifth Avenue between 78th and 79th streets, is one such business. Owner Rosemarie Fistanic said sales are down 95 percent.

“I’ve tried to reinvent myself,” said Fistanic. “I took in some fabrics, and it’s helping to a degree. But I’m still thinking about what else we could specialize in,” to meet market demand.

La Boheme, an evening-wear store located on Fifth Avenue at 85th Street, has also suffered, with sales dropping 20 percent, according to a store manager who wouldn’t give her name.

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango

Kleinfeld’s (above) left Bay Ridge last year, but wedding stores like Sposabella (top) are still doing well, according to owners. However, Beverly Trimmings owner Rosemarie Fistanic (at left with Maria Perniciaro on ladder) says the loss crippled her sales.

Kleinfeld’s opened in 1941, but its development into a bridal destination was gradual.

“We opened as a fur store,” said Jack Schachter, its former owner. “From there, we slowly evolved into ready-to-wear.

“In the 1960s, accidentally, we got into bridal. Someone who worked for us part-time convinced us to open up a bridal room. In the late 1960s, bridal became the dominant part of this store, so we got rid of everything else.”

At its height in 1990, Kleinfeld Bridal occupied seven buildings on Fifth Avenue, between 82nd and 83rd streets, and attracted as many as 500 people a day, some from as far away as California, and many from New Jersey and Manhattan.

“The bride doesn’t come by herself,” he said. “She comes with a retinue. She has a mother, brides-maids, maids-of-honor. We call it her ‘advisory committee.’”

Schachter, who sold the business in 1990, still owns five of those buildings — one of which will become a Commerce Bank branch.

“We felt the business was ready to expand, and we didn’t feel personally capable of bringing it to that level,” said Schachter. “I was getting on in years, and to start going in a different direction ... It was time to go.”

He sold to someone who has no regrets about leaving Bridal Row at the altar.

“I know that Kleinfeld brought in a lot of traffic to the area, but times change, and we had to move on,” said co-owner Mara Urshel, adding that Kleinfeld’s is flourishing in Manhattan.

Nonetheless, Schachter said he never would have left the borough.

“They [Kleinfeld] lost the mystique of Brooklyn,” said Schachter. “I personally would have stayed in Bay Ridge.”

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Serious comedy

Hall and Redgrave channel Oscar Wilde with new 'Earnest'

By Kevin Filipski
for The Brooklyn Papers

For Sir Peter Hall, who directs Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" — starring Lynn Redgrave — at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Harvey Theatre this month, shepherding a new production of a century-old play — even a masterpiece like Wilde's — is difficult.

"I think a director's function, when working on a classic play from the past, is roughly this: to try to understand as much as possible of the society which supported the play originally and which bred its author," Sir Peter observes via e-mail from London. "The author's intentions have, to the director's best ability, to be found out and observed."

But director Hall also knows the realities of live theater: embalming classic plays as mere museum pieces does a disservice to both playwright and audience.

"No play speaks for itself and no play can be done as an antique," he explains. "It has to become a living thing where the director tries to express the author's original intentions in terms which are modern enough for a contemporary audience to understand. But to make it 'fresh' and 'new' by distorting it is no help either."

When it comes to Wilde's wonderfully witty play — which centers on two young men who have invented, respectively, a brother and a pseudonym both named Ernest to help spice up their rather boring lives — a first-rate production with superb actors will by itself keep the play fresh and new, with no further spicing up needed.

Sir Peter already knows, having staged Wilde before, that his scripts are constantly reinvigorated because they belie their clever surfaces.

"Years ago, I directed Wilde's play 'An Ideal Husband' and discovered something absolutely basic," he says. "All Wilde's characters are extravagantly emotional and are naturally egocentric. But they do not show their feelings: that would be fundamentally un-English, so they utter witticisms instead.

"The more emotional they become, the more they cover their feelings with extravagant wit. It is a type of English stiff-upper-lip, and it informs all of Wilde's theatre. Beneath the wit, there is always an intense emotional reality. And if the actor doesn't create it every night, then the play may look unserious, even facetious."

Craig Schwartz

Craig Schwartz

Wilde about 'Earnest': Lynn Redgrave (above) stars as Lady Bracknell in Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," directed by Sir Peter Hall (inset).

That's definitely not the case in Hall's "Earnest" production, which features British theater stalwarts like Miriam Margolyes, Terence Rigby, James Waterston, Bianca Amato and Charlotte Parry, in addition to Redgrave.

"The reason why Miss Redgrave is my ideal choice is because she has such strength and clarity," he says. "She knows what a very serious business comedy is and she understands the power of Lady Bracknell's obsessions. It is the marriage market which obsesses her: she wants to have her daughter married well and that means money."

That, to be sure, is an underlying theme of the play.

"There is a very serious social purpose underneath the high comedy," says Hall. "These are people who have little to do except to assert their position in society, maintain their capital, and don't soil their hands with any work. [Wilde's] original audience must indeed have been made to look at itself."

The playwright subtitled his immortal work as "a trivial comedy for serious people," which the director finds vintage Wilde. "[It is], in my view, Wilde throwing down a challenge to his audience," Hall explains. "I'm perfectly sure he didn't regard his comedy as 'trivial.' I'm equally sure he didn't think of the audience as 'serious.'"

Hall's production of Wilde's classic comes to the BAM Harvey Theater, April 18 through May 14, on the heels of his staging of Shakespeare's "As You Like It," starring daughter Rebecca Hall, which played in the fall of 2004.

"I love the Harvey Theatre," Hall gushes. "It has a large auditorium, and yet, it retains its intimacy — the energy therefore that the actors receive from the audience is very strong. I shall also look forward again to having the cushion seats [on the floor] in the front of the auditorium as I did when I brought 'As You Like It.'"

Even though Wilde is infamous for his epigrams and witticism — whether uttered by himself or the characters in his plays — Hall sees him as part of a lineage connecting several great English-language dramatists.

"[Playwrights like Wilde, Harold Pinter, Peter Schaffer and Noel Coward, all of whom Hall has staged] have very individual voices expressing very different styles," he explains. "Wilde said famously, 'Give a man a mask and he will tell you the truth.' All these great dramatists have masks, which has to do with the rhythm of their sentences, and they are all completely their own.

"In Wilde, if you say the line as a whole — going all the way to the full-stop, you get the laugh. But if you break it up or chop it up in the interests of 'realism,' the laugh doesn't come," he continues. "All these dramatists live in words, and they have vocabularies and rhythms which are as particular as Shakespeare's."

That's the highest praise a playwright can receive.

THEATER

"The Importance of Being Earnest," directed by Peter Hall, will be performed at the BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, April 18 through May 14. Tickets are $85, $75, $50 and $30. For more information, call (718) 636-4100 or visit www.bam.org.

ART

Bearing fruit

Art — and beauty — can be found in the most unexpected places, but Fort Greene artist-curator Ryan Watkins-Hughes wants you to go and really look for it.

Hint: he's leaving it on store shelves along Williamsburg's Grand Street.

"It's a funny riff on Warhol's soup cans," Watkins-Hughes told GO Brooklyn. "He elevated a Campbell's soup can to high art, and I'm taking high art and putting it back in the grocery store."

Watkins-Hughes has collected artworks from 40 artists, placed them on cans of food and distributed them amidst a dozen shops for his "Shopdropping" show.

In C-Town, shoppers might stumble across the works of (pictured, left to right) New York's Kelly Mola, Kentucky's Shannon McRoberts, California's Michael Rippens, Watkins-Hughes and Maine's Kris Hall.

The best place to begin the art hunt is Maiden, Brooklyn, where many of the eight-ounce cans are on display, and a map to the drop sites can be picked up.

For the most part, says Watkins-Hughes, the store owners and employees are unaware that their business is being used as gallery space, although for this collaboration with Maiden, Watkins-Hughes did ask permission from some proprietors to ensure there would still be cans for visitors to admire throughout April.

"A majority of [the store owners] don't know that they are there, and that's the intended habitat," said the 27-year-old artist. "I want to be leaving them unbeknownst to the shop owners and employees." He defines his "Shopdropping" project as "a form of culture jamming; reverse shoplift."

He also likens his ongoing dabbling in guerilla street art as a "prank."

"It's funny and engaging, and there's something a little dangerous about it," said Watkins-Hughes. "I've gotten caught a couple of times and confronted by different store owners, and it's fun to try to talk your way out of why you're leaving a product behind.

"They have no clue what to think. Sometimes they don't even notice until I take pictures of them. I've even been accused of corporate espionage! Like some other company wants to know how Shop Smart stocks their peaches."

"Shopdropping" is on display through April 30 at Maiden, Brooklyn (252 Grand St. between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street in Williamsburg) and other venues. For gallery hours and more information, call (718) 384-1967 or visit www.maidenbrooklyn.com. ***— Lisa J. Curtis***

CINEMA

'Happy' days

The Brooklyn Underground Film Festival (BUFF) surfaces at the Brooklyn Lyceum April 19-23 with films that range from "Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash," a montage of scenes from Japanese TV (pictured), to earnest, politically charged documentaries addressing Mexican immigration, such as "Letters from the Other Side" and "The Other Side."

The world premiere of "Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash," directed by an anonymous collective, according to BUFF programming Director Josh Koury, is April 22 at 10:15 pm. According to BUFF staffer Alex Smith, "The zany, mind-numbing world of Japanese television shall blow your f—king skull off."

In addition to screening 100 films, this year's festival will also include an on-site group art exhibit, "In the Face of Mechanical Reproduction"; and performances by Har Mar Superstar, The Hunting Party, The Five O'Clock Heroes, and 33Hz at Williamsburg's Northsix (66 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue) on April 22.

The Brooklyn Lyceum is located at 227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope. Tickets are $8 per screening and can be purchased at the Lyceum or on BUFF's Web site, www.brooklyn-underground.org. Tickets to the Northsix concert are $12 at the door. For a complete schedule, visit the Web site. ***— LJC***

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Neighborhood Dining Guide

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SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Clemente's Maryland Crabhouse

(at the Vince Marina), 3939 Emmons Ave. at Knapp Street, (718) 646-7373, (Cash only) Entrees: $8.95-$24.95.

With more than 100 seats on the water, many of Clemente's patrons are more likely to dock their boats than park their cars. Visit the new outdoor tiki bar complete with frozen drinks and seven beers on tap. The popular all-you-can-eat Maryland blue crab special comes with corn on the cob and fries for $29.95. And of course, there's lobster, salmon, tuna, clams, oysters and mussels. For those who aren't in the mood for seafood, Clemente's offers chicken dishes, steaks and burgers, too. Did we mention the raw bar? Closed Mondays through Thursdays during the winter months, Clemente's is now open for dinner daily, and lunch Friday though Sunday.

Garden Bay Cafe

1788 Sheepshead Bay Road at Shore Parkway, (718) 648-2225 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: $6-$12.

Smoke billows out the window and the aroma of seared pork and lamb floats down the street from which one can easily watch the skewers rotating on the grill in this quaint Armenian restaurant. Owner Narine Varvanyan recommends the house specialty, "Lula kebab," chicken cooked on a skewer and served with half-inch-thick fried potatoes. Grilled eggplant and peppers garnish the Armenian-style salad, and the specialty soup is "xarcho," a spicy lamb stew with rice. As the name suggests, this is a garden cafe. Tucked in the back of the restaurant, far from the clamor of the bustling curbside, diners will find a true oasis where a gentle waterfall babbles in the background and Russians chat while sipping borscht or nibbling on baklava. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Il Fornetto

2902 Emmons Ave. at Nostrand Avenue, (718) 332-8494, www.ilfornettorestaurant.com (DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: $8-$27.

Watch the boats drift in and out of the bay this summer while dining on the porch of this Sheepshead Bay waterfront restaurant, which specializes in Italian seafood and brick oven pizza. The name of the restaurant, which roughly translates to "brick-oven" in Italian, pays homage to the diversity of baked dishes chef Joe Magliulo offers on the menu. For starters, try the "Vongole al Ghiaccio," chilled little neck clams with cocktail sauce from their raw bar. For entrees, Il Fornetto offers "Vitello Frascati," veal scallopini with Frascati wine, artichokes and sun-dried tomatoes or for dining with a date, sample their massive "Grigliata Mista," grilled, sliced sirloin steak, chicken, jumbo shrimp and portobello mushrooms. The daily oven-baked fish special is usually Mediterranean sea bass or "orata" (sea bream), which "is called the king of fishes because it's one of the tastiest fish in the Mediterranean," says owner Angelo Balbo. The portions are generous, but if you are still hungry for dessert, try the panna cotta, a molded custard. Open daily for dinner and lunch Monday through Saturday.

Istanbul Restaurant

1715 Emmons Ave. at Sheepshead Bay Road, (718) 368-3587, www.istanbulrestaurantny.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: $8.50-$17.

This cozy Turkish restaurant with tiled arcades and charming folk costumes on the walls offers some of the best — if not most unique — kebabs in the borough. The menu boasts an eclectic sampling of regional dishes prepared by chef Dogan Atas such as the "Adana Kebab," a ground lamb kebab flavored with bell peppers and paprika, popular in southern Turkey, or the Turkish-style pizza, called "pide," a slender, boat-shaped crust baked with meat and vegetable toppings. Owners Dogan and Riza Atas have recently added a number of authentic seafood dishes to the menu, and recommend for an appetizer the mussels stuffed with halal meat and Turkish white rice. Entrees include the "cupra" (royal dorado), a fish brought from the Aegean Sea; and imported Mediterranean sea bass. For dessert, says Dogan, taste the "kunefe," a pastry made of shredded phyllo dough, filled with cheese and drenched in honey sauce; or simply ask to see the dessert cart and choose from up to 20 freshly-made specialties. A sidewalk cafe overlooking the bay allows diners to idle away the afternoon sipping Turkish coffee, which many locals do. Open daily.

Lundy Bros.

1901 Emmons Ave. at Ocean Avenue, (718) 743-0022, www.lundysrestaurant.com (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: $14.95-$48.95. ★

Once known as the nation's largest restaurant, Lundy Bros. continues to be a family favorite for Brooklynites, as well as a popular stop for tourists. Originally opened in 1934, the restaurant reopened under new management in 1993. A seafood lover's paradise, Lundy's serves up clams, oysters, mussels, shrimp, crab legs and lobster. They also offer steaks and a special shore dinner: a whole lobster, half a roasted chicken, soup or salad, and apple or blueberry pie. A daily special, "Lundy's Combo," includes half a lobster, half a pound of crab's legs, broiled shrimp, crab cake and baked clams, along with soup or salad, coffee and dessert, all for $26.95. Plenty of seaside ambience — inside and out. Lundy's overlooks Sheepshead Bay with its fishing boats and bustling population. Open Tuesday-Saturday, from noon to 10 pm, and Sundays, from noon to 9 pm. Closed Mondays except on holidays.

Michael's

2929 Ave. R at Nostrand Avenue, (718) 998-7851, www.michaelsofbrooklyn.com (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: $18-$30. ★

More than 40 years ago, Michael Cacace opened a small pizzeria with three tables and a takeout window. Today, his sons Fred and John preside over an elegant Italian restaurant in Sheepshead Bay with a spacious dining room and romantic lighting. A pianist plays every night on a baby grand. Chef John Pesci's hot seafood antipasto-for-two includes grilled octopus, calamari oreganato, shrimp scampi, baked clams and mussels marinara. Their mouth watering veal scaloppine marsala is garnished with onion, prosciutto and a Marsala wine sauce with mushrooms. Located on a quiet street, Michael's might have been one of Brooklyn's hidden treasures if word hadn't gotten out years ago — mostly from satisfied customers who return from all over the metropolitan area. Their pastry shop is located across the street, and customer parking is available. Open Tuesday through Sunday for lunch and dinner. Closed Mondays.

Mill Basin Kosher Deli and Art Gallery

5823 Ave. T at 59th Street, (718) 241-4910, www.millbasindeli.com (MC, V) Entrees: $9.99-$19.95.

"Our chopped liver couldn't be fresher and our matzo balls are better than grandma's," boasts the Web site of Mill Basin Kosher Deli. While this statement may seem like hyperbole, one look at the over-stuffed pastrami sandwiches, potato knishes and kosher fried chicken, and you know that this 30-year-old deli is not familiar with humble gestures, nor does it have to be. The food is so good that people ship it to friends around the country. Owner Jordan Schachner recommends the house specialties — corn beef or pastrami on rye — with a Dr. Brown's cream soda; or try one of their 75 beers. The specials are filling: all-you-can-eat pastrami for $14.95, or two huge, all-beef kosher franks and a knish for five bucks. Diners can take their meals outside and sit in the newly renovated outdoor garden or enjoy a meal inside, surrounded by the art deco works of Erte. The deli will close for Passover at 2 pm on April 12 and remain closed through April 20. Otherwise, Mill Basin Kosher Deli is open every day.

Randazzo's Clam Bar

2017 Emmons Ave. at E. 21st Street, (718) 615-0010 (MC, Visa) Entrees: $7.50-$30.95.

Since 1920, this fourth generation, family-owned restaurant has been steaming, frying, baking and stewing its clams to perfection. Year-round, seafood delights ranging from creamy chowders and bisques to hefty lobsters, plucked fresh from the tank, dominate the menu. As the summer weather warms the bay, enjoy their soft-shelled crabs, fried calamari and a cold seafood platter, which includes a whole lobster, four oysters, four clams and shrimp cocktail. Randazzo's famous hot and medium sauce is served with plates of calamari, mussels, shrimp or scungili, creating a meal that the owner insists is "second to none." Outdoor seating available. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Editor's note: *These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to www.brooklynpapers.com on the Web. If your restaurant is not listed and you would like it to be, please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via e-mail at Curtis@brooklynpapers.com.*

★ = Full review available at BrooklynPapers.com

Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express, DC= Diner's Club, Disc= Discover Card, MC= MasterCard, Visa= Visa Card

His way

Japanese cuisine cooked up with originality at Taku

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

I've been lucky to visit several restaurants recently where chefs turn out a personal rendering of Asian cuisine. The most individual approach can be found at Taku, a Japanese eatery in Boerum Hill, co-owned by chef Adam Shepard, who worked at Manhattan's Bond Street and Union Pacific.

Taku is his first restaurant, and his original concept was a noodle house.

"I was tired of traveling into the city for a good bowl of ramen," said the Brooklynite, "and thought that the neighborhood could use a place that served great soup made with the best ingredients." By the time he and his business partner Jim Heckler opened in May 2005, their humble ramen shop evolved into a polished, 50-seat restaurant with cooking that references Japan, but is as uniquely Shepard's as his fingerprint.

The menu is brief with a few small dishes labeled "snacks," several more substantial appetizer plates, just three noodle soups and a handful of entrees. There are standard dishes such as "edamame," the Japanese boiled soybeans that taste like peanuts. There are "gyoza," the crescent shaped dumplings, which he serves with a tart sauce brightened with the addition of yuzu, the slightly sour citrus fruit.

But if you're looking for traditional sushi, you won't find it. There is a handroll filled with tuna tartare and another made with fried eggplant and served with a sweet miso sauce. One plate of three different sashimi (slices of raw fish served with garnishes) is available, too; the variety changes constantly, depending on the freshest catch of the day. But that's it for raw fish.

If you want to eat in a classically decorated Japanese restaurant with a long sushi bar overlooking chefs slicing and rolling, that isn't Taku. The decor strikes high notes with elegant gray-green walls and a vase on the bar bearing a spray of pink cherry blossoms. Yet the flowers that create a border around the top of the walls have a hand-drawn quality and the waitresses wear casual street clothes.

The Brooklyn Papers / Jori Klein

At 'home' on Smith Street: Chef and co-owner Adam Shepard (above) serves up Taku's signature ramen (right), a medley of Berkshire pork, scallion, "gobo" and smoked bacon.

Looking at the space, I imagined Shepard saying to his designers, "Let's not make this too precious."

He begins a meal with "kimchi," an incendiary Korean pickled cabbage. His version tames the heat into a slow burn on the tongue.

Under "appetizers," there are two unusual vegetable dishes listed. One features five kinds of seaweed mixed with ginger dressing that's flavored with "daikon" radish and sweet onions. The ingredients create an intriguing balance of briny flavors and a pleasant note of sharpness from the roots. Long beans (also known as yard-long beans for their length) are charred until slightly smoky and tossed with a tofu dressing flavored with miso. Cold sake (Nigori Ginjo — "Summer Snow" — from the Kamoizumi Brewing Company), which begins with a smooth creaminess and finishes with a bite, holds up to the appetizers' spice.

DINING

Taku (116 Smith St. between Dean and Pacific streets in Boerum Hill) accepts American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa. Entrees: $18-$24. The restaurant serves dinner from Tuesday through Sunday. Closed Mondays. For reservations, call (718) 488-6269.

Big prawns are fried until crunchy in a batter laced with cayenne pepper. The shrimp, which are a little heftier than tempura — yet still light, are dipped into sauce made from QP mayonnaise, the Hellmann's of Japan, which is warmed with chilies and scallions.

There are a few small missteps on the menu. "Harumaki," or Japanese-style spring rolls, are deep-fried until crisp, but their vegetarian filling is no more enticing than a standard eggroll.

Taku's desserts are just so-so. A sludgy, green almond cream made an unwelcome entry over a silky, bittersweet chocolate pot au creme. The coconut ice cream sundae wasn't a bad way to end the meal, but it seems like an afterthought, not a fully developed dish. That dessert included scoops of vanilla ice cream, a fluff of green tea-flavored whipped cream and a scattering of sour cherries and toasted coconut.

There are two beautifully executed, sensuously textured fish dishes: "kon-bo-cured black codfish" and "line-caught Chatham cod." The black codfish was seared until the skin was crisp and the flesh silken. A bit of pickled persimmon added a tart, yet sweet, note and slices of Japanese eggplant lent color to the plate. The cod, from the waters off Massachusetts, was coarser in texture with a delicate taste. Shepard paired the fish with slices of curried parsnips and dabbed the plate with vinaigrette that enlivened each bite.

He is just as adept at meat dishes, especially the playfully conceived hanger steak topped with tempura "onion rings." The rare slices of boldly flavored meat were teamed with roasted shiitake mushrooms and a rich shallot sauce. Those rings — impossibly crisp and retaining the sharpness of the onion — are reason enough to visit the restaurant.

About the ramen: Shepard says it's the most popular dish on the menu — and for good reason. He uses Berkshire pork and smoked bacon in his "Taku ramen" that has a deep, meaty broth. Slices of rare rib-eye steak floated over silky noodles in a rich, curry-laced stock in the "pho bo." At $15 and $14 respectively, they're not cheap for noodle soups, but the flavors are vibrant, the serving is generous and the ingredients are the best available.

Taku means "home" in Japanese, and it's an apt name for this quirky restaurant. Shepherd is literally at home on the block where he lives a few doors of Massachusetts, was courser in texture with a delicate taste. Shepard paired the fish with slices of curried parsnips and dabbed the plate with vinaigrette that

The Brooklyn Papers / Jori Klein

The Brooklyn Papers / Jori Klein

Dance like Zorba

The latest addition to Bay Ridge's ever-burgeoning dining scene is Aganti Meze. The restaurant that serves traditional Greek dishes is the clone of the popular, 3-year-old eatery of the same name in Astoria, Queens. The latest Aganti Meze, an 80-seat, rustic looking room with black-and-white photos of Athenian residents on the walls and hand-painted crockery on the tables, opened Dec. 30.

The menu of chef-owner Spiros Sidorakis (his partner is Maria Lambrianidis) stays true to the simple cooking of the region with familiar meze such as "taramasalata," the carp fish roe spread; "tsatsiki," the cooling cucumber salad dressed with yogurt that's garnished with mint and paprika; and crisp leaves of phyllo dough filled with spinach and feta cheese, "spanakopita."

The preparation of grilled salmon — lightly adorned with lemon and olive oil — and fresh sardines — grilled or cooked with rosemary — lets the quality of the fish shine through. There is "souvlaki" (slices of roasted, skewered meat) on the menu, too. His moist chicken version of the dish is "legendary," says Sidorakis proudly.

(Pictured at left is the "Dolmades yialantzi," hand-rolled grape leaves stuffed with rice and herbs.)

Be careful of the retsina on the mostly Greek wine list. The wine seems innocuous, but down a couple glasses of the pine-flavored vino and you'll be dancing on the table like Zorba the Greek. When spring actually feels like spring, the owners will set up tables on the side of the restaurant for outdoor dining.

Aganti Meze (7802 Fifth Ave. at 78th Street in Bay Ridge) accepts cash only. Entrees: $5.50 to $20.50. The restaurant serves lunch on the weekends from 1 am to 4 pm; dinner is available daily. For reservations, call (718) 833-7033. ***— Tina Barry***

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Share a moment

Joe Mangrum's temporary installation decomposes at Ch'i Contemporary Fine Art

By Rebecca Migdal
for The Brooklyn Papers

From dust to dust: Inspired by the sand paintings of Tibetan monks, artist Joe Mangrum (inset) created a mandala from spices, dried fruits and nuts at Williamsburg's Ch'i Contemporary Fine Art (above).

The mandalas spread out in rippling waves of color from a series of sandy footprints leading across the gallery floor. Brightly hued spices, accented by almonds, flowers, dried fruits and carefully placed mounds of tiny peas, swirl in oval patterns. Each footprint is comprised entirely of commodities culled from the local Brooklyn community.

San Francisco artist Joe Mangrum, 37, spent a week gathering materials in the borough that he found visually exciting and meaningful to create the installation, "Impressions," at Ch'i Contemporary Fine Art in Williamsburg.

On display through April 17, "Impressions" is a visceral and visionary response to New York City, according to Mangrum. The installation depicts the conflict between Nature and the industrial, man-made world, and also between the individual and an oppressive, socialized environment.

The rainbow ripples made of soft, organic stuff appear fragile, but they are realized as powerful, irresistible forces that can rip up geometrically laid out tiles and buckle pavements. The dramatic narrative, in which forces of Nature arise to hurl off the yoke of societal control, is a central theme of Mangrum's work.

The large color photos documenting his previous installation work that fill out Ch'i's gallery space are a recent innovation. For many years, Mangrum says, it was a struggle to get decent photographs of the performance-like works. It's extraordinary that such an artist has survived and thrived, creating playful, inclusiveness to the work that transcends the usual categories of art consumption. Pedestrians of all ages pause, peer through the window, and then wander into Ch'i. They step gingerly around the little Zen moments of public interaction and visual contemplation.

And yet, recognition came early and easily for Mangrum. Maybe it's because there's an swirls of lentils and puddles of colored sand, pointing and talking happily.

A prodigy who started painting at age 8, Mangrum graduated from the School at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1991 and then set out to see the world. While following the Beastie Boys' tour, he learned sand painting techniques from a group of Tibetan monks. In 1994 he began creating daily installations at Laguna Beach, making what he terms an "environmental statement" against the construction of a toll road that was destroying public parklands.

"Every morning I'd walk for two hours and gather flowers and plant materials, and then create all day," Mangrum told GO Brooklyn. The creative process he describes as a "12-hour meditation of peeling apart flowers to a stem/petal/pistil level ... deconstructing and then laying them out in symmetrical forms." The 16- to 20-foot-wide mandalas, which were swept away by park attendants each morning, attracted a good deal of attention from park visitors. After one week, a front-page story in the Los Angeles Times made Mangrum a celebrity.

Mangrum seems as surprised as he is delighted by the response to his work. But he has an explanation: the mandala symbol, he says, has "the ability…to communicate to all cultures, without a linguistic barrier."

While Mangrum's work piqued the interest of the media and local residents, the San Joaquin Hills Toll Road was completed in 1994.

Before long, Mangrum began incorporating industrial and mechanistic structures into his works, underscoring the significance of the organic materials and forms. In one piece, "Trans-Mission 98," he deconstructed his broken-down car, cutting it into tiny pieces, which then became a Lilliputian city in a San Francisco plaza. With the help of passersby, a truckload of living sod was used to create tendrils of greenery engulfing the metallic structure. (A photograph of this installation is on view at Ch'i.)

In another piece, "Detonation Earth," marking the 60th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Mangrum and 20 volunteers created a floating mushroom cloud composed of hundreds of pounds of sprouted wheatgrass and draped it over a reproduction of the Nike of Samothrace in chains. A photograph shows the grid-like miniature landscape of computer parts, industrial scraps and bottled compost that surrounded the statue.

Employing edible materials such as fruit, nuts, seeds, wheatgrass, milk and honey, Mangrum seeks to impart a living presence to his works. There are fragrances, and textures that one yearns to touch; in addition, the materials begin changing from the moment they are added to the assemblages. Vulnerable to destruction by time, accident or intent, the pieces are both miraculous manifestations and wry commentaries on society. Made of uneaten food, sprockets and whatever else is handy, the sculptures seem to be generated in the imagination of a child.

Although Mangrum won the Lorenzo De Medici Award at the Florence Biennale in 2003, conversing with him doesn't feel like an interview with an "important" American artist. His unpretentious words emphasize ephemeral moments in human lives, transformed by unexpected encounters with art.

When asked if anyone has ever eaten part of his sculptures, Mangrum says laughingly, "I have!"

Visitors to Ch'i behave as though they had helped to create these designs themselves; or as if they were in the presence of something sacred.

There's a kernel of truth in both of these notions. Mangrum's work was born on the streets, made holy by its capacity to involve the public in the process of art. And after it's all been swept away, what was precious about it was the moment of shared wonder it inspired.

ART

"Impressions," an installation, and a show of photographs by Joe Mangrum, is on view through April 17 at Ch'i Contemporary Fine Art, 293 Grand St. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg. For more information, call (718) 218-8939 or visit www.qianartspace.com.

100 Wine Tips

Don't Fear the Riesling!

By Darrin Siegfried

If ever there was a misunderstood grape, it is Riesling. Whenever I get together with winemakers, Chefs and Sommeliers, it seems that we always start off with a bottle of Riesling, but most of the American public shies away from wines made from this venerable, ancient grape. Let's take a look and try to find out why.

Like many other Americans, my first experiences with Rieslings (pronounced REE sling) were anything but noble. College students have always had little money to spend on drink, so inexpensive, simple, sweet German Rieslings like Zellerschwarzenkatz, Blue Nun, Black Tower and Liebfraumilch were what we bought. They were enjoyable in that they contained alcohol, seemed more sophisticated than offering your date a beer, and they were fine for a young, inexperienced palate. We drank them and we enjoyed them, and I make no excuses for that. I am very glad, though, that most of the Rieslings made are quite unlike those of my youth.

Most people have a sweet tooth. We are born with a taste for sweetness, and eating foods when they were ripe (and sweet) was necessary for our early ancestor's survival. We Americans have a notorious appetite for sweets, but seem to hate the idea of our wine having even the slightest trace of sugar. (This natural sugar, from the grape, is left over from the fermentation process and is called residual sugar) We drink soft drinks with the equivalent of twelve spoonfuls of sugar per can, but run from a touch of natural sweetness in our wine, and we miss out on so much. Think about it: have you enjoyed a soda with a slice of pizza, or a shake with a burger? Lots more sugar there than in almost any Riesling. The slightly sweet "off-dry" Rieslings go very well with food, and once you give them a try I think you'll agree.

Riesling was brought up the Rhine River by the conquering Romans, replacing the native grapes found growing there. It was able to flourish in cool climates with a small amount of rainfall and early frosts. Riesling remains the most important grape for winemaking in Germany to this day, and so much of German cuisine pairs so beautifully with Riesling that Germans drink more wine per capita than do the French! Riesling spread west to Alsace, on the French side of the Rhine, where it, also, is the dominant grape, making a delicious match with the regional dishes, such as Charcroute Garnie and Quenelles of Pike.

"Serious" German Rieslings, often the dry ones, usually have labels that are difficult to understand. You really have to know a lot about German wines to decipher the labels, and the information, while plentiful, can often confuse novices. The old Gothic typefaces used in printing them didn't help much, either. Tradition ruled the day and, happily, that day is passing. Willie Gluckstern, one of my favorite importers, uses his own eye-catching labels and, on the back labels, tells us the level of residual sugar and of acidity. Talk about truth in labeling! Some day everyone may follow Willie's common sense lead.

Wine lovers should know that Riesling is the most versatile of all grapes, capable of making the driest, most delicate of wines, the richest, most dense, sweet-as-honey dessert wines, and almost anything in between, either still or sparkling. I believe that Rieslings are perhaps the most food-friendly wines, in that they compliment so many foods, and they do not compete with their flavors. Rieslings, surprisingly, are also a perfect match with many dishes that we usually associate with red wines! Delicious and refreshing, low in alcohol, an occasional touch of sweetness, an aromatic fruitiness paired with crisp acidity: who could ask for more in a wine?

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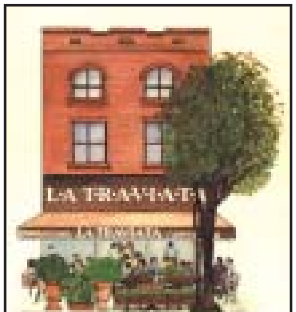

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BROOKLYN Nightlife

Compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

Amarachi Lounge
325 Franklin Ave. at Clifton Place in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (646) 641-4510, www.amarachilounge.com.
Saturdays: The Weekend Workout, 10 pm, $5; **Tuesdays:** Open Mic Artist Showcase, 8 pm, $5; **Thursdays:** Fashun4ward, live fashion show featuring Brooklyn designers and models, 8 pm, $7.

Anyway Cafe
1602 Gravesend Neck Road at East 16th Street in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 934-5988, www.anywaycafe.com.
Tuesdays: Jazzy funk with Karin Okada and guests, 9 pm, FREE.

The Backroom
(Inside Freddy's Bar) 485 Dean St. at Sixth Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 622-7035, www.freddysbackroom.com.
April 20: Kings County Opry featuring The Song Circle, 8:30 pm, Whiskey River, 9:30 pm, The Younger Sister Band, 10:30 pm, FREE.

BAM Cafe
30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org.
April 21: Joe Bataan, 9 pm, $10 food/drink minimum; **April 22:** Julian Fleisher, 10 pm, $10 food/drink minimum.

Barbes
376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com.
Tuesdays: Slavic Soul Party, 9 pm, $8; **Wednesdays:** "Night of the Ravished Limbs," 9 pm, $8; **April 15:** Michael Leviton, 8 pm, $8 suggested donation, Brook's Qawwali Party, 10 pm, $8 suggested donation; **April 16:** Greg Sinibaldi/Reuben Radding Quartet, 8 pm, $8 suggested donation, Stephane Wrembel, 9 pm, $8 suggested donation; **April 17:** The Plunk Brothers (Bob Jones & Boo Reiners), 9:30 pm, $8 suggested donation; **April 18:** Split the Lark, 6 pm, $8 suggested donation, Jenny Scheinman, 7 pm, $8 suggested donation; **April 19:** Roland Heinz Group, 8 pm, $8, John Hebert Quartet, 10 pm, $8; **April 20:** Haale, 8 pm, $8 suggested donation, Matt Munisteri, 10 pm, $8 suggested donation; **April 21:** Lambic, 7 pm, $8 suggested donation, The Moonlighters, 10 pm, $8 suggested donation; **April 22:** Banning Eyre, 8 pm, $8 suggested donation, Kill Henry Sugar, 10 pm, $8 suggested donation.

Bembe
81 S. Sixth St. at Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-5389, www.bembe.us.
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Black Betty
366 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 599-0243, www.blackbetty.net.
Saturdays: DJs Yah Supreme and Concerned, 11 pm, FREE; **Sundays:** Brazilian Beat with DJ Sean Marquand and DJ Greg Caz, 10 pm, FREE; **Mondays:** Rev. Vince Anderson and his Love Choir, 10:30 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** Hot Rocks, 10 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Yah Supreme & Brohemia with DJ Concerned, 9:30 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Brian J and the Pimps of Joytime, 10 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** The Greenhouse with DJ MonkOne, 11 pm, FREE.

Cafe Steinhof
422 Seventh Ave. at 14th Street in Park Slope, (718) 369-7776, www.cafesteinhof.com.
April 19: J. Walter Hawkes Trio, 10:30 pm, FREE.

Cattyshack
249 Fourth Ave. at Carroll Street in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740, www.cattyshackbklyn.com.
Saturdays: (Main floor) DJs Daryl Raymond & BK Brewster, 10 pm, $5; **Sundays:** PJ's Tea Party featuring rotating DJs and the latest L-Word viewings, 9 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** (Downstairs) Trivia Night with Sancho, 7 pm, FREE, (Upstairs) After work party with rotating DJs, 5 pm, $5, FREE after midnight; **Wednesdays:** (Downstairs) "I'm Okay, You're Okay - Kara-Okay," 9 pm, FREE to watch, $5 all you can sing, (Upstairs) "Oink!" with DJ Floyd for dirty boys hosted by PJ, 9 pm, $3; **Thursdays:** (Upstairs) Schoolhouse with DJ 'Lina & Daryl Raymond, 9 pm, $TBD; **Fridays:** (Main floor) All-request after-work party with DJ Lugnut, Cirrah with DJ Mark James, and rotating go-go with Maine & Sarah and Cinnamon & Keisha, 10 pm, $5; **April 15:** Lipstick Optional with DJs Rekha and Naughty Nisha, 10 pm, $10; **April 20:** (Downstairs) El Disco es Cultura, 10 pm, $5, (Upstairs) DJ Fucci, 10 pm, $5; **April 22:** "RE:," a performance and dance party with Olive Demetrius, DJ Mark James and Marga Gomez, 9 pm, $7.

Center for Improvisational Music
295 Douglass St. at Third Avenue in Park Slope, (212) 631-5882, www.schoolforimprov.org.
April 15: Malaby/Sanchez/Rainey Trio, 8 pm, $12; **April 22:** Big Satan, 8 pm, $12.

Chocolate Monkey
329 Flatbush Ave. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-7896.
Saturdays: Express a.k.a. open mic poetry talent showcase, 10 pm, $7 (performers), $10 (spectators), Sexy Lounge After-Party with DJ Ozkar Fuller spinning house, classics and rare grooves, 12:30 am, FREE; **Sundays:** Krazy Nanny's Sunday Karaoke featuring Lisa Love, 9 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** Femme Elite Entertainment music by DJs Candy and Inez hosted by Lisa Love, 6 pm, FREE ($5 after 9 pm); **Wednesdays:** Comedy Showcase hosted by Ray DeJon, 9 pm, $10; **Thursdays:** A Taste of the Underground, 9 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** "After Work Karaoke" hosted by Lisa Smiles, 6 pm, FREE, Live music and DJ, 11 pm, $5.

Club Exit
147 Greenpoint Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 349-6969, www.club-exit.com.
Saturdays: DJ Dance Party, 10 pm, $15 (ladies FREE until 11 pm); **Fridays:** DJ Dance Party, 10 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Etnica with live DJs, 11 pm, $25 before midnight, $35 after midnight.

Club Xo
1819 Utica Ave. at Avenue J in Flatlands, (718) 209-0525, www.clubxonyc.com.
Fridays: "The Best of the Best" featuring live DJs, 11 pm, FREE before midnight, $10 after midnight.

'Slim' chance: Langhorne Slim will play Northsix on April 19.

The Cornerstone Pub
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Crossroads Cafe
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Le Dakar Cafe
285 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-8900, www.dakarcafe.net.
Mondays: Keswa, a "Lion King" castmember, sings live, 8 pm, $5; **Wednesdays:** Soul Session with DJ Op, 8 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** DJ Moh, 8 pm, FREE.

Europa Night Club
98 Meserole Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 383-5723, www.europaclub.com.
Saturdays: VIP Dance Party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, $15 after 10:30 pm; **Fridays:** Sexy Progressive/Dance party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, $15 after 10:30 pm; **April 16:** The Kristjan Randalu Quartet with Bodek Janke on drums, 7:30 pm, $10 (students free before 8 pm with valid student ID).

Five Spot
459 Myrtle Ave. at Washington Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 852-0202, www.fivespotsoulfood.com.
Mondays: Open turntables hosted by DJ Copa, 8 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** DJ Handspin Dinero, 6 pm, FREE, DJ Tommy Talkz, 8 pm, FREE, Hot Damn Tuesdaze (comedy night) with Dave Lester, 10 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** DJ Copa, 6 pm, FREE, Soul F'Real, an R&B open mic for Soul Singers, 9 pm, FREE, back-up band Da Feel, 10 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Large Professor presents "Timbuktu," 10 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** PF Cuttin, midnight, $5.

Frank's Lounge
660 Fulton St. at South Elliott Place in Fort Greene, (718) 625-9339, www.frankscocktaillounge.com.
Saturdays: Sinful Saturdays with DJs Tyrone and Infinite, 9 pm, $5; **Tuesdays:** Tuesday Night Live, 9 pm, 2-drink minimum; **Wednesdays:** Karaoke with Davey B, 9 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Lonnie Youngblood, 9 pm, $TBD; **Fridays:** (Downstairs) Ffun Dance Party with DJs Tyrone, Julian and Infinite, 8 pm, $5; **April 15:** Brown Baby Girl, 8 pm, $10.

Galapagos
70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 782-5188, www.galapagosartspace.com.
Fridays: VJ/DJ Friday Nights, 10 pm, FREE; **April 15:** (Backroom) Terry Dame's Electric Junkyard Gamelan with Blarvuster, 8 pm, $7, (Frontroom) Hotels, 8 pm, $7; **April 19:** (Backroom) Deep Dish TV Benefit Party, 8 pm, $7-$20; **April 21:** (Backroom) Bindlestiff Family Cirkus Cabaret, 10 pm, $15, (Frontroom) IPECAC KISSES, an evening with James Bradford, 7:30 pm, FREE, Jack and the Bean Stalk, 10 pm, $8 in advance, $10 day of the show.

Good Coffeehouse Music Parlor
At Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972, www.bsec.org.
April 21: The Park Slope Food Co-op presents David Roche & friends, 8 pm, $10 adults, $6 children.

Hank's Saloon
46 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill, (718) 625-8003, www.hankssaloon.com.
Sundays: Shotgun Shack, 6 pm, Sean Kershaw and the New Jack Ramblers, 10 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Mobscenity, 10 pm, FREE; **April 15:** Sasquatch and the Sick-a-billys, 10 pm, FREE; Blank Tapes, 10 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Lindy Loo's Hillbilly Hayride, 10 pm, FREE; **April 22:** Jack Grace Band, Fancy Trash, 10 pm, FREE.

The Hook
18 Commerce St. at Columbia Street in Red Hook, (718) 797-3007, www.thehookmusic.com.
April 15: Emergenza Festival with Speed Assault, 7:30 pm, Reason Enough, 8 pm, The Symphony Case, 8:30 pm, Ordinary K, 9 pm, Game Rebellion, 9:30 pm, Section 8 Cartel, 10 pm, Apophenia, 10:30 pm, The States, 11 pm, My Friend Ben, 11:30 pm, Ellen Road, midnight, $10 in advance, $15 day of the show; **April 16:** Emergenza Festival with Steve Lieberman, The Gangsta Rabbi, 6 pm, Infectious Disease, 6:30 pm, Sanitarius, 7 pm, The Painted Noise, 7:30 pm, Until Destiny, 8 pm, All Heavens Fall, 8:30 pm, Dump Body, 9 pm, Code 6, 9:30 pm, Future Society, 10 pm, Incuria, 10:30 pm, $10 in advance, $15 day of the show; **April 20:** Emergenza Festival with The Sonitus Revolution, 7:30 pm, Change the Station, 8 pm, The Space Between Us All, 8:30 pm, Midnight Pass, 9 pm, Top Of Da Hill, 9:30 pm, Louvre, 10 pm, New Piracy, 10:30 pm, Strange Attractors, 11 pm, Exit53, 11:30 pm, Necrophilia, midnight, $10 in advance, $15 day of the show; **April 21:** Emergenza Festival with Icarus, 7:30 pm, Strung on Grey, 8 pm, My Own Alibi, 8:30 pm, Lies Beneath, 9 pm, Republickins, 9:30 pm, 7 Kings, 10 pm, Yvan Sehr and the Myth, 10:30 pm, Aaron Shneyer and Band, 11 pm, The Invisible Solid, 11:30 pm, $10 in advance, $15 day of the show.

Hope and Anchor
347 Van Brunt St. at Wolcott Street in Red Hook, (718) 237-0276.
Saturdays, Thursdays and **Fridays:** Karaoke hosted by drag queen Kay Sera, 9 pm, FREE.

Jazz 966
966 Fulton St. at Cambridge Place in Clinton Hill, (718) 639-6910, www.jazz966.com.
Fridays: Live jazz, 8 pm, $5 and $15 donation; **April 21:** Randy Weston & his African Rhythms, $15 donation and $5 minimum.

The Jazz Spot
179 Marcus Garvey Blvd. at Kosciuszko Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 453-7825, www.thejazz.8m.com.
Mondays: Jam session, 8 pm, $5; **April 15:** Danny Mixon Trio, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, midnight, $15.

Jolie Restaurant
320 Atlantic Ave. at Hoyt Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 488-0777, www.jolierestaurant.com.
Tuesdays: Bonne Ambiance Mardi night featuring live music with Peter Davenport, 9 pm, FREE.

Kili Bar-Cafe
81 Hoyt St. at State Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 855-5574.
Tuesdays: Open acoustics, 10 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** DJ Chappy plays rock, hip-hop and funk, 10:30 pm, FREE.

Kumble Theater
(at Long Island University) 1 University Plaza at Willoughby Street in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 488-1624, www.kumbletheater.org.
April 15: All-Star Salute to the Giant Stars of Latin Jazz, 7:30 pm, $55, $75, or $100.

Laila Lounge
113 N. Seventh St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 486-6791, www.lailalounge.com.
Mondays: Karaoke with the Corn-Fed Sisters, 10 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** APA League, 7 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Jezebel Music Showcase with an open mic, 7:30 pm, Live music, 8:30 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** All Night Cookin', 9 pm, OHM, 11 pm, FREE; April 8: DJ Friend, 10 pm, FREE; **April 15:** DJ Spanky, 10 pm, FREE; **April 22:** DJ Ron Harrara, 10 pm, FREE.

Les Babouches
7803 Third Ave. at 78th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-1700.
Saturdays and **Fridays:** Belly dancer Shahrazad, 8 pm, FREE.

The Lucky Cat
245 Grand St. at Roebling Street in Williamsburg, (718) 782-0437, www.theluckycat.com.
Mondays: Joe McGinty's Piano Parlor and keyboard karaoke, 11 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** Jezebel Music Open Mic Night hosted by Dave Cuomo, 7 pm, FREE, Fear of a Whack Planet, 10 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Hex! with DJ Jeremy, 10 pm, FREE; **April 15:** Pony, 9 pm, $TBD, The Saturday Night Stomp with The Devil Spades, The Crimson Ghosts, 10 pm, $5; **April 19:** Rockdove, 9 pm, FREE; **April 20:** Brooklyn Rocks! with The Peddlers, 7:30 pm, Benyaro, 8:30 pm, Our Finest Hour, 9:30 pm, Blue Rider, 10:30 pm, $8, Art4YourEar with sax wizardess MATANA 11:30 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Percussion Lab, 10 pm, $TBD; **April 22:** Barcore, 10 pm, $TBD.

Magnetic Field
97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 834-0069, www.magneticbrooklyn.com.
April 15: Mondo Topless, The Black Hollies, 8 pm, $5; **April 21:** The Moneychangers, The Coydogs, and more, 7:30 pm, $TBD; **April 22:** Accidental Sons, The Real Burnouts, 8 pm, $5.

National Restaurant
273 Brighton Beach Ave. at Brighton Second Street in Brighton Beach, (718) 646-1225, www.come2national.com.
Saturdays: Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with $65 prix fixe dinner); **Fridays:** Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with $50 prix fixe dinner); **Sundays:** Live Russian music and dance show, 7 pm, FREE (with $50 prix fixe dinner).

Night and Day Restaurant
230 Fifth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 399-2161, www.nightanddayrestaurant.com.
Sundays: John McNeil and Bill McHenry, 8 pm, $6 and 1-drink minimum; **Mondays:** Artist's Salon, 7 pm, FREE, Debra and Mary's Night on the Town, 9 pm, $10 and 1-drink minimum ($5 for students); **Tuesdays:** Songwriters Showcase with Kevin Ray, 7 pm, FREE with 1-drink minimum, Live jazz jam hosted by the Dan McCarthy Trio, 9 pm, FREE with 1-drink minimum; **April 15:** Tanya Kalmanovitch Hut Five, 9 pm, $7 and $7 food/drink minimum; **April 19:** Stephanie Rooker, 9 pm, $5 and $7 food/drink minimum; **April 20:** Brooklyn Conservatory presents Chris Jentsch Quartet, 9 pm, $TBD and $7 food/drink minimum; **April 21:** Don Militello, 7 pm, $TBD and $7 food/ drink minimum, Renku, 9 pm, $TBD and $7 food/ drink minimum; **April 22:** Cliff Korman Ensemble, 9 pm, $8 ($5 for students and teachers with valid ID) and $7 food/drink minimum.

Night of the Cookers
767 Fulton St. at South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 797-1197.
Saturdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE; **Sundays:** Live music, noon, FREE; **Thursdays:** Live jazz, 8 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** Live jazz, 10 pm, FREE.

Northsix
66 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-5103, www.northsix.com.
April 15: Heineken and The Onion present The Appleseed Cast, Aloha, Victory at Sea, 9 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of the show; **April 17:** Brain Surgeons NYC, John Wilkes Booth, The Attorneys, 9 pm, $12; **April 18:** Jana Hunter, Metal Hearts, 9 pm, $10; **April 19:** Lucero, Langhorne Slim, The Reputation, 8 pm, $12; **April 21:** (Downstairs) Roxy Pain, Terset, Free Diamonds, Forsake Ya To The Snakes, 9 pm, $8, (Upstairs) High On Fire, Goatwhore, Watch Them Die, 9 pm, $15; **April 22:** (Downstairs) Polar Bear Club, 9 pm, $7, (Upstairs) Har Mar Superstar, 33hz, The Hunting Party, 9 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of the show.

Perch Cafe
365 Fifth Ave. at Fifth Street in Park Slope, (718) 788-2830.
April 20: Melissa Stylianou Trio, 8 pm, Donation suggested.

Pete's Candy Store
709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3770, www.petescandystore.com.
Sundays: Open mic, 5 pm-8 pm, FREE; **April 16:** The Left-Handed Devil, 8:30 pm, Schatzy, 10 pm, Jan Bell and the Cheap Dates, 10:30 pm, FREE; **April 17:** Spelling Bee, 7:30 pm, Mas Rapido, 9:30 pm, Looner, 10:30 pm, FREE; **April 18:** Bingo, 7 pm, The Blank Tapes, 9 pm, TSUI, 10 pm, Brian Dunn, 11 pm, FREE; **April 19:** Quizz-Off, 7:30 pm, New American Wing, 10 pm, Greg Connors, 11 pm, FREE; **April 20:** Wynn Walent and the Speed of Light National High Five Day Celebration Party, 9 pm, Elephant Parade, 10 pm, Chris Garneau, 11 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Krystle Warren, 9 pm, Finian McKean & the Wild Palms, 10 pm, Paul Brill, 11 pm, FREE.

Rbar
451 Meeker Ave. at Graham Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 486-6116.
Mondays: Guest bartender nights, 9 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** "Mikey's Big Gay Pajama Party," 11 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Service Industry Night, 9 pm, FREE.

Sista's Place
456 Nostrand Ave. at Jefferson Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 398-1766, www.sistasplace.org.
April 15: Eddie Gale with Dick Griffin, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $20; **April 17:** James Spaulding Quintet, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $20; **April 20:** Louis Reyes Rivera with Salim Washington's Sextet, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $20; **April 21:** Andrew Cyrille/Odeon Pope Duo, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $20.

Southpaw
125 Fifth Ave. at St. John's Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236, www.spsounds.com.
April 15: Pesach Rock featuring Tricrotic, The Shondes, Pharaoh's Daughter, and Jason Trachtenburg's Proverbial Fourth Wall, 8 pm, $10; **April 18:** Video Trapped the Rapper, Sadat X, Percee P, Maspyke, Asamov, Earatik Statik, Kenn Starr and guests, 8 pm, $8; **April 19:** Joan Osborne, 8 pm, $25; **April 20:** One Self, DJ Vadim, Yarah Bravo, Blu Rum 13, 8 pm, $12; **April 21:** A Very Special Night with The Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra with special guest Baaba Maal, Dub Trio and DJ Daniel Collas, 8 pm, $16.

Stain
766 Grand St. at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-7840, www.stainbar.com.
Mondays: Paint Stain, 5 pm (often accompanied by the jazz guitar of Noboru, 8 pm), FREE; **Wednesdays:** JAM-stain, an informal open mic hosted by singer-songwriters, 9 pm, FREE; **April 15:** Industrious Noise, 8 pm, Chris Brocco, Autumn in Halifax and the Paul Johnson Band, 10 pm, FREE; **April 17:** Meg Cavanaugh, 10 pm, FREE; **April 18:** David White Trio, 8 pm, FREE; **April 20:** Ryan Chatelain, 8 pm, Felili Roncon, 10 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Andrea Maddox, 8 pm, Yarn, 10 pm, FREE; **April 22:** Greg Heffer-man, 8 pm, FREE.

Tea Lounge
837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762, www.tealoungeny.com.
April 20: Pete Robbins & Centric, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Tim Ziesmer's Ampersand, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, FREE.

Trash Bar
256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.thetrashbar.com.
April 15: The Impulse, 9 pm, Billy Filo & the Ringers, 10 pm, True Love, 11 pm, Year of the Bull, midnight, $6; **April 16:** Your Favorite Hero, 8 pm, Consolation Prize, 9 pm, Letters to Scarlet, 10 pm, Hot Lunch, 11 pm, Free Under Constant Threat, midnight, $6; **April 17:** Less Nessman, 8 pm, Riotonred, 9 pm, Suffrajett, 10 pm, The Last Vegas, 11 pm, The Anthem, midnight, $6; **April 18:** Americans UK, 8 pm, Dirty Excuse, 9 pm, The Monumentals, 10 pm, Dark Skies, 11 pm, The Live Ones, midnight, $6; **April 19:** Free Diamonds, 8 pm, Bazooka Falcon, 9 pm, The Eden Project, 10 pm, Cross Eyed Jesus, 11 pm, The Renoirs, midnight, Forsake Ya To The Snakes, 1 am, $6; **April 20:** Mad Hampster, 10 pm, $6; **April 21:** Mahi Mahi, 9:30 pm, Moto:Rosa, 10:30 pm, The Go Stations, 11:30 pm, The Domestics, 12:30 am, $8.

Two Boots Brooklyn
514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 499-3253, www.twobootsbrooklyn.com.
April 15: Mike Brick & the Music Grinders, 10 pm, FREE; **April 20:** Nashville Stranger, 9 pm, FREE; **April 21:** The Ryan Scott Orchestra, 10 pm, FREE; **April 22:** The M Shanghai String Band, 10 pm, FREE.

Vox Pop
1022 Cortelyou Road at Stratford Road in Flatbush, (718) 940-2084, www.voxpopnet.net.
Sundays: Open mic, 7:30 pm, FREE with 2-drink/snack minimum; **April 15:** A'tris with Ionia, 8 pm, $5 suggested donation; **April 21:** Kerry Drexler with Tan Lim Music, 8 pm, $5 suggested donation; **April 22:** Diva Blues Series with Terraplane Blues Duo and Jo Wymer, 8 pm, $5 suggested donation.

Waterfront Ale House
155 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 522-3794, www.waterfrontalehouse.com.
April 15: Gerald Brasil Trio, 11 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Soukis Blues Band, 11 pm, FREE; **April 22:** Tone Johannsen, 11 pm, FREE.

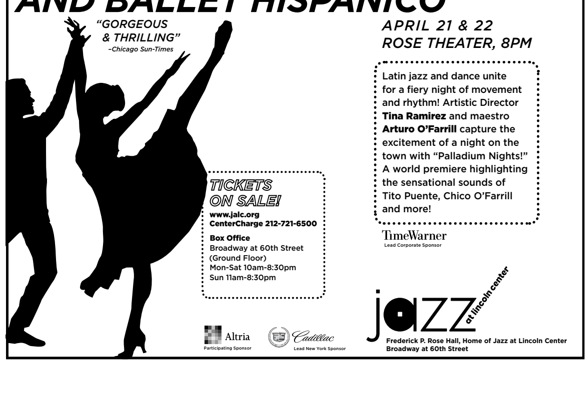
The Wicked Monk
8415 Fifth Ave. at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 921-0601, www.wickedmonk.com.
April 15: Steel Horse, 8 pm, 24-Seven, 11 pm, $5; **April 21:** The Real Big Easy, 8 pm, Rock Junky, 11 pm, $5.

Zebulon
258 Wythe Ave. at Metropolitan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 218-6934, www.zebuloncafeconcert.com.
April 15: Baye Kouyate et les Tougarake, 10 pm, FREE; **April 16:** Amayo's Fu-arkist-ra, 10 pm, FREE; **April 17:** The Eddie Gale Now Band, 9 pm, Our Night, 11 pm, FREE; **April 18:** Fire of Space, 10 pm, FREE; **April 19:** Polly Cotton, 10 pm, FREE; **April 20:** Konga-I, 10 pm, FREE; **April 21:** Baye Kouyate et les Tougarake, 10 pm, FREE.

TALK TO US...

To list your events in **Brooklyn Nightlife**, please give us as much notice as possible. Include name of venue, address with cross street, phone number for the public to call, Web site address, dates, times and admission or ticket prices. Send listings and color photos of performers via e-mail to Nightlife@BrooklynPapers.com or via fax at (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

The listings are correct as of press time. Contact the venue before you go to confirm event details.



Where to GO

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

SAT, APRIL 15

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

URBAN RANGER WALK: Learn about the history of Fort Greene Park. Ranger-led walk discusses fort's role in the Revolutionary War and the prisoners of war who are entombed in a vault. 1 pm. Meet at Visitor's Center, Myrtle Avenue at Washington Park. Call 311. **Free.**

GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY: Big Onion Walking Tours takes a walk in Brooklyn's Victorian "City of the Dead." $15, $12 seniors, $10 students. 1 pm. Meet at main entrance, Fifth Avenue at 25th Street. (212) 439-1090.

WALKING TOUR: Mauricio Lorence hosts this Metro Tour Service, taking a walk through Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Brooklyn Heights. $25. 2 pm to 5 pm. Meet at Marriott Hotel Brooklyn, 333 Adams St. (718) 789-0430.

PERFORMANCE

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "St. Matthew Passion," with music by Johann Sebastian Bach. $30 to $90. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. Also, "Peer Gynt," by Henrik Ibsen. In Norwegian with English titles. $25 to $80. 7 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

BARGEMUSIC: Classical music concert of Khandoshkin, Shubert, Haydn and Shostakovich. $35, $30 seniors, $25 students. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

LATIN JAZZ: Afro-Caribbean jazz musicians perform. $55 to $100. 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Kumble Theater for the Performing Arts at Long Island University, Flatbush Avenue Extension and DeKalb Avenue. (718) 488-1624.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Take Me Out." $15, $12 children and seniors. 8 pm. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101. www.galleryplayers.com.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: presents the drama "Wait Until Dark." $12, $10 seniors, students and children. 8 pm. 26 Willow Place. (718) 237-2752.

CHILDREN

RUN AROUND: Brooklyn Lyceum opens its theater stage for a "Kid Runaround." Bring your kid in to burn off some energy. 10 am to 2 pm. Food available. 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 857-4816.

WEEKSVILLE HANDS-ON: Teens are invited to learn about historic preservation and conservation at a workshop given at Hunterfly Road Houses. Activities include hands-on experience in preservation arts with workshops in stained glass, glass blowing, carpentry, traditional woodworking and more. 10 am to 2 pm. 1698 Bergen St. Call for fee info. (718) 756-5250.

EGG HUNT: Brooklyn Heights Playground Committee hosts its annual spring event. 10 am sharp. Pierrepont Playground, Brooklyn Heights Promenade at Pierrepont Street and Columbia Heights. www.bhplaygrounds.org. **Free.**

SHADOW BOX THEATER: presents "The Earth and Me," asking the question: can a child save the earth? $5.50. 10:30 am. YWCA of Brooklyn, 30 Third Ave. (212) 724-0677.

BABIES READING: Barnes and Noble, Jr. invites babies and toddlers to meet Spot and read stories. 11 am. 106 Court St. (718) 246-4996. **Free.**

PUPPETWORKS: presents a marionette performance of "The Wizard of Oz." $8, $7 children. Recommended for ages 4 and older. 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. 338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street. (718) 965-3391.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: hosts "Eggstravaganza." Kids, ages 6 and older, are invited to look at Ukrainian eggs and hear springtime stories. Egg-painting craft activity included. $4, free for members. 3 pm to 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: Black circus performers in "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." $20.50 to $35. 4:30 pm and 8 pm. Wollman Rink Lot, Prospect Park. (800) 316-7439, www.universoulcircus.com.

OTHER

CURATOR TALK: Kentler International Drawing Space hosts a reception for its exhibit "Critical Mass." 4 pm. 353 Van Brunt St. (718) 875-2098. **Free.**

SUN, APRIL 16

Easter

PERFORMANCE

BARGEMUSIC: Classical music concert of Khandoshkin, Shubert, Haydn and Shostakovich. $35, $30 seniors, $25 students. 4 pm. Also, additional program featuring works by Beethoven, Adams and Messiaen. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: presents "Point Break Live!," the stage adaptation of the 1992 Keanu Reeves extreme-sports movie. Starring role will be selected at random from the audience. $12. 8 pm. 70 N. Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "Wait Until Dark." 2 pm. See Sat., April 15.

NEXT WAVE: "Peer Gynt." 2 pm. See Sat., April 15.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "Take Me Out." 3 pm. See Sat., April 15.

CHILDREN

FAMILY FUN SERIES: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts presents "Lazer Vaudeville." $8 to $15. 1 pm. Brooklyn College, Walt Whitman Hall, one block from junction of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

SHARK-A-RAMA: NY Aquarium invites kids, ages 5 to 8, to a behind-the-scenes look at the resident sharks. $30, $23 members. 2 pm to 4 pm. West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue. (718) 265-FISH.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: hosts "Symbols of Spring and the Seder." $4, free for members. 3 pm to 4:30 pm. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

PUPPETWORKS: "The Wizard of Oz." 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. See Sat., April 15.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." 4 pm and 7 pm. See Sat., April 15.

OTHER

SHORTS: Brooklyn Lyceum presents "An Evening of the World's Best Short Films." $10. 7 pm. 227 Fourth Ave. www.brooklynlyceum.com. (718) 857-4816.

MON, APRIL 17

NY AQUARIUM: Kids, ages 6 to 8, are invited to celebrate spring break with Elly Jelly. Learn about sea jellies and their cousins, anemones. $48. 10 am to 2 pm. West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue. (718) 265-FISH.

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "It Happened in Brooklyn" film series. Today: "It Happened in Brooklyn" (1947). $10. 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm and 9:15 pm. Q & A with authors John Manbeck and Robert Singer follows 6:50 pm screening. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 777-FILM. www.bam.org.

FILMMAKERS TALK: Brooklyn Young Filmmakers Center offers a talk on script writing: "Blueprint for Making a Film." $60, $30 teens. 3-week course. 6:30 pm to 9 pm. 149 N. Oxford Walk, Fort Greene. (718) 935-0490.

TRAVELING CINEMA: Brooklyn Independent Cinema Series presents "One Step Away" (1968). 7 pm. Also, "Happy Mother's Day" (1963). Barbes Bar, 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177. **Free.**

READING SERIES: Galapagos Art Space reading by progressive authors. $10-$20. Call for time. 70 N. Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

TUES, APRIL 18

MEETING: Norwegian Christian Home and Health Center hosts a meeting. Guest speaker Edwin Mendez-Santiago, Commissioner of NYC Department for the Aging. 9 am to 11 am. 1250 67th St. (212) 689-7000, ext. 222. **Free.**

LINE DANCING: Jubilee Senior Center invites dancers of all levels for fun. 1 pm. 55 Pierrepont St. (718) 680-2142. **Free.**

COFFEEHOUSE SERIES: Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch presents Joanna Fuhrman, author of "Freud in Brooklyn," "Ugh Ugh Ocean" and "Moraine." Other authors read. 7 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

MUSICAL DRAMA: American Females for Righteousness, Abasement, Ignorance and Docility presents a musical drama in two acts. $20. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 857-4816.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents the Theater Royal Bath/ Peter Hall Company's "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde. $30 to $85. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 636-4100.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

WEDS, APRIL 19

CONCERT: Regina Opera Company performs. 1:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Brighton Beach branch, 16 Brighton First Road. (718) 236-1760. **Free.**

ARTISTS TALK: Pratt Institute hosts a panel discussion titled "Real Estate for Artists and Creative Professionals." 6 pm to 8 pm. Pratt, Higgins Hall, 61 St. James Place. Reserve a seat by e-mail: btucker@pratt.edu. **Free.**

TEEN BOOK GROUP: Barnes and Noble hosts a reading group to discuss "Candy," by Kevin Brooks. 6 pm. 106 Court St. (718) 246-4996. **Free.**

LETHEM READS: As part of the Jewish Heritage Festival, BAM Cafe presents Jonathan Lethem, interviewed by Jessica Hagedorn. $42 includes reading, dinner, wine. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

MEETING: of Community Board 7. 6:30 pm. 4201 Fourth Ave. (718) 854-0003.

AUTHOR SERIES: Kingsborough Community College presents legendary author Erica Jong. 7 pm. 2001 Oriental Blvd. (718) 368-5051. **Free.**

READING: Night and Day Restaurant presents "Speakeasy: Stories from the Back Room." $7 drink and food minimum. Call for time. 230 Fifth Ave. (718) 399-2161.

MEDITATION: Buddhist class at First Unitarian Church. $10. 7 pm to 8:30 pm. 48 Monroe Place. (718) 496-5514.

MEETING: The Bay Ridge Historical Society presents guest speakers Lorraine Diehls and Marianne Hardart. They discuss story of the Horn and Hardart Automat. 7:45 pm. Shore Hill Towers, 9000 Shore Road. (718) 745-5938. **Free.**

CONCERT: New American Wing performs new music. 10 pm. Pete's Candy Store, 709 Lorimer St. (718) 302-3770, www.petescandystore.com.

UNDERGROUND FILM FEST: New and emerging filmmakers showcase their films. Also, Q&A sessions, panel discussions, art exhibit and more. $8. Brooklyn Lyceum, Fourth Avenue at Union Street. Program info at www.brooklynunderground.org. (862) 485-0025.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

NEXT WAVE: "The Importance of Being Earnest." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

THURS, APRIL 20

BUSINESS WORKSHOP: Church Avenue Merchants Block Association offers a talk on how to open a home-based daycare center. 10 am to 1 pm. 884 Flatbush Ave. (718) 282-2500, ext. 242. **Free.**

BAMCINEMATEK: presents "The Offence" (1973). $10. 4:30 pm and 7 pm. Cinemachat with Sidney Lumet and Elliott Stein after 7 pm screening. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 777-FILM. www.bam.org.

READING: Rachel Vigier reads from her poetry. Others. 8 pm. Old Stone House, JJ Byrne Park, Fifth Avenue between Third and Fourth streets. (718) 768-3195. **Free.**

RECEPTION: Art show hosted by Makeshift Gallery. 6:30 pm to 10 pm. 187 Amity St. (718) 858-6461. **Free.**

CREDIT TALK: High school students and young adults are invited to learn about the importance of maintaining a good credit rating. 7 pm. Anchor House, 1041 Bergen St. (917) 776-3261. **Free.**

THEATER: The Paul Robeson Theater hosts the premiere of the production "Cabrini-Greene," a story about an interracial couple. $20. 7:30 pm. 40 Greene Ave., between Carlton Avenue and Adelphi Street. (718) 783-9794.

BARGEMUSIC: Classical music concert "The Adventures of a Cello," featuring a program of Shostakovich, Heras and Piazzolla. $35, $30 seniors, $25 students. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

NEXT WAVE: "The Importance of Being Earnest." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

Good sports: The Gallery Players present Richard Greenberg's "Take Me Out" through April 16.

Open" by Desiree Burch, Michael Cyril Creighton, Kyle Jarrow and others. $12. 8 pm. Also, "Jack and the Beanstalk," a musical with puppets. $10. 10 pm in the front room. Also, Bindlestiff Family Cirkus Winter Cabaret. $15, $5 discount for clowns in make-up. 10 pm in the back room. 70 N. Sixth Street. (212) 868-4444.

CALLI GRAFFITI: Tiger Beer presents an urban Asian art movement. Entertainment includes massages and free Tiger Beer. Several artists exhibit their sculpture, paintings and video work. 9 pm to midnight. 58 Grand St. (718) 388-6780. **Free.**

BARGEMUSIC: presents a classical music concert, "The Adventures of a Cello." 7:30 pm. See Thurs., April 20.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

NEXT WAVE: "The Importance of Being Earnest." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

THEATER: "Cabrini-Greene." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

MUSICAL COMEDY: "Pippin." 8 pm. See Sat., April 22.

BROOKLYN ARTS EXCHANGE: "Tiny Open Sky." 8 pm. See Sat., April 22.

UNDERGROUND FILM FEST: New and emerging filmmakers showcase their films. Also, Q&A sessions, panel discussions, art exhibit and more. $8. Brooklyn Lyceum, Fourth Avenue at Union Street. For schedule, visit the Web site, www.brooklynunderground.org. (862) 485-0025.

SAT, APRIL 22

Earth Day

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

TEEN CHALLENGE: Race for Freedom fundraiser. 5K race, 1 mile walk and pee-wee races. Check in from 8 am to 9:45 am. Bartel-Pritchard Circle, Prospect Park West and 15th Street. (718) 789-1414, ext. 219.

CIVIC SWEEP: Park Slope Civic Council hosts its bi-annual neighborhood clean-up. 10 am to 2 pm. After the clean-up, take part in the Spring Fling, a family event at the Old Stone House. 11:30 am to 3:30 pm. JJ Byrne Park, Fifth Avenue between Third and Fourth streets. (718) 832-8227.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Celebrate Earth Week and help clean up Prospect Park. 10 am to 2 pm. Meet at Long Meadow and Endale Arch. Enter Prospect Park at Flatbush Avenue and Eastern Parkway. (718) 965-8960.

ECO-CRUISE: NYC Audubon Society offers a tour of the New York Harbor. Learn about winter birds of the Lower Bay region. $45, $20 children age 12 and younger. 11 am to 1 pm. Meet at South Street Seaport, Pier 17, lower Manhattan. (212) 742-1969.

WEEKSVILLE TOUR: Learn about historical area known as Weeksville. Tour includes a visit inside the Hunterfly Road Houses. $3 admission to houses. 1 pm to 3:30 pm. Meet in front of Boys and Girls High School, corner of Fulton Street and Stuyvesant Avenue. (718) 756-5250. WALKING TOUR: Mauricio Lorence hosts this Metro Tour Service, taking a walk through Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Brooklyn Heights. $25. 2 pm to 5 pm. Meet at Marriott Hotel Brooklyn, 333 Adams St. (718) 789-0430.

URBAN RANGER WALK: Learn about the history of Fort Greene Park. Ranger-led walk discusses fort's role in the Revolutionary War and the prisoners of war who are entombed in a vault. 1 pm. Meet at Visitor's Center, Myrtle Avenue at Washington Park. Call 311. **Free.**

BROOKLYN BRIDGE WALK: Big Onion Tours takes a walk over the bridge and through Brooklyn Heights. $15, $12 seniors, $10 students. 1 pm. Meet at the southeast corner of Broadway and Chambers Street, lower Manhattan. (212) 439-1090.

PERFORMANCE

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde with the Theater Royal Bath/ Peter Hall Company. $30 to $85. 2 pm and 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. Also, Brooklyn Philharmonic performs with chanteuse Ute Lemper. $10 to $60. 8 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

BARGEMUSIC: Classical music concert of Haydn, Schoenberg and Dvorak. $35, $30 seniors, $25 students. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

THEATER: Paul Robeson Theater hosts the premiere of the production "Cabrini-Greene," a story about an interracial couple. $20. 8 pm. 40 Greene Ave., between Carlton Avenue and Adelphi Street. (718) 783-9794.

MUSICAL COMEDY: The Strivelli Players present "Pippin," music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. $15. 8 pm. St. Bernadette's School, 1313 82nd St. (718) 907-3422.

BROOKLYN ARTS EXCHANGE: "Tiny Open Sky," by artist-in-residence Allison Farrow. $15, $10 members, $8 low-income. 8 pm. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 832-0018.

CHILDREN

RUN AROUND: Brooklyn Lyceum opens its theater stage for a "Kid Runaround." Bring your kid in to burn off some energy. 10 am to 2 pm. Food is available. 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 857-4816.

BARNES AND NOBLE, JR.: Celebrate Easter with a story time and activity sheets. 11 am. 106 Court St. (718) 246-4996. **Free.**

PUPPETWORKS: marionette performance of "The Wizard of Oz." $8, $7 children. For children ages 4 and older. 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. 338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street. (718) 965-3391.

KIDS CIRCUS: Russian American Kids Circus performs at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts. $10 to $20. 1 pm. Brooklyn College, Walt Whitman Theater, one block from the intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Kids are invited to honor the earth and participate in an array of science and culture activities. 1 pm to 5 pm. Also, "Brooklyn Reads to Babies," an early literacy event. Noon to 4 pm. $4, free for members. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

NY TRANSIT MUSEUM: Learn how subway trains work during a demo and discussion. $5, $3 ages 3 to 17 and seniors. 2 pm to 4 pm. Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street. (718) 694-4915.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: Black circus performers in "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." $20.50 to $35. 4:30 pm and 8 pm. Wollman Rink Lot, Prospect Park. Check for info at www.universoulcircus.com. (800) 316-7439.

Continued on page <Nonc>...

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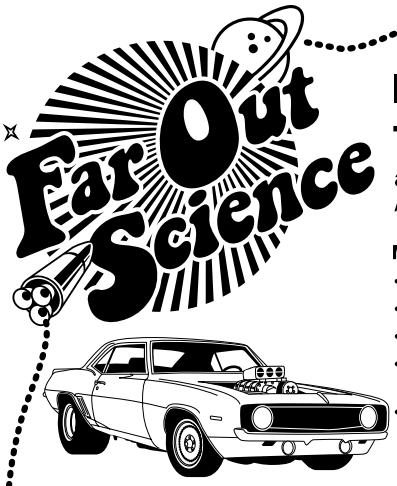
To list your event in **Where to GO**, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.



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PARENT

The hat lady sings!

SMART mom

By Louise Crawford

SOMETIMES, Smartmom wonders if Park Slope is becoming a parody of itself.

Her most-recent concern started on March 21, when a Park Slope mother of twins posted a message about a lost hat on Park Slope Parents, the local Web message board that is devoured by tout le monde.

Like any Internet discussion group, the discourse runs the gamut from the ridiculous to the sublime. From highly informative to exasperatingly precious, the parenting discussions are often heavily tinged with political correctness — extra correct, for this is Park Slope, after all.

For Smartmom, much of it leaves her with that "been there, done that" feeling. Teen Spirit and OSFO aren't babies anymore and, thankfully, Smartmom doesn't need to read about breast feeding, tummy sleeping, or the latest $1,500 Bugaboo.

But Smartmom does check in regularly to read the latest brouhaha — because, as Rosannerosannadana used to say, it's always something.

Incredibly, the March 21 post — subject line, "Lost boy's hat" — set off the biggest bonfire yet.

Sad to say, the conflagration has consumed Park Slope, threatening to become the defining moment when the neighborhood realizes that the rest of the city is actually right to think that we're a bunch of progressive, child-centered, politically correct whack-jobs.

And it all started out so innocently. "Lost Boy's Hat." Simple. Sweet. Almost poetic in its brevity.

"Friday, at the corner of 11th Street and Eighth Avenue, [I found an] adorable navy blue, or maybe black, fleece hat with triangles jutting out of it of all different colors," the Hat Lady wrote.

It was practically poetry — but those jutting triangles quickly became daggers. Believe it or not, the Hat Lady was chastised by another poster.

"I'm sorry, I know that you are just trying to be helpful, but what makes this a 'boy's hat'? Did you see the boy himself lose it? Or does the hat in question possess an unmistakable scent of testosterone?"

This is the hat — just don't call it a *boy's* hat — that set off a firestorm in Park Slope. But is that a boy or a girl wearing it? Don't answer!

One can immediately smell an air of self-righteousness in Gender Sensitive's post, which began with an apology, but quickly moved in for the kill.

"It's innocent little comments like this that I find the most hurtful," Gender Sensitive continued. "What does this comment imply about the girl who chooses to wear just such a hat (or something like it)? Is there something wrong with her?"

That post created its own flurry of charges and countercharges.

"It's e-mails like yours that drive me up the wall!" wrote one parent. "The original poster was just trying to do something nice and return a lost item to someone. If it was my hat, I wouldn't care if she posted it as 'dog's hat found.' I'd just be happy to get it back."

The heated discussion went on for many days, dozens of posts in all. Many defended the Hat Lady. Others agreed with Gender Sensitive's call for more, well, gender sensitivity.

Some of the posts got personal, some political — but the whole affair ended up in the pages of New York Magazine and on the Gawker Web site. And the articles all painted Park Slope with a very broad, and not-so-flattering, brush.

SO SMARTMOM called Hat Lady herself — and landed something those Gaphattan-based publications couldn't get: the worldwide exclusive!

And, believe it or not, the Hat Lady defended her attacker.

"Here's a woman who obviously takes things really seriously and really cares about how people see the world and how they see objects in the world," Hat Lady said about Gender Sensitive. "She is concerned about how things will be passed on to her children. And I can appreciate that."

She even had sympathy for her devil (in Park Slope, after all, every villain is just "misunderstood").

"I felt upset that she was attacked so viciously," said the Hat Lady. "But I didn't want to seem like too much of a wuss. People were sticking up for me, as well. I didn't want to seem like a spineless water creature."

In the end, Hat Lady harbors no bitterness (it's Park Slope, after all). She's so busy raising twins that she barely has time to brush her teeth, let alone engage in a cyber-debate.

But despite the flame-out, her faith in the Park Slope Parent's community is unwavering. "I think there is so much greatness in those e-mails. There was humor, apology. More compassion than meanness.

"To me, it was all about free speech. That's the greatness of America. And Park Slope Parents is a venue for free speech. It's about people shouting out their feelings and having their own opinion. It's a great display of community."

The hat that started it all, meanwhile, remains in her apartment.

"No one has come forward yet," she says. "Who owns this damn, friggin' hat?"

So while a gender-neutral child in Park Slope goes without his (or her?) hat, something much more important has been learned: Everyone else thinks we Slopers are nuts.

Park Slope is a crunchy, progressive hot bed of politically correct parenting — perhaps more than ever. But those values do make Smartmom's community strong.

It's easy for the Gaphattan crowd to make fun of, but in these times, Park Slopers can be proud that concern for gender and racial equality, the survival of the planet, peace, and free expression are top priorities.

It does get messy sometimes, but as the Hat Lady told Smartmom: "On Park Slope Parents, all of our values come into play. It's how we present our conflicts that dictates how we resolve them."

True, but when Good Samaritans are attacked for an ill-chosen pronoun, that's where Smartmom draws the line.

Louise Crawford is also the author of "Only the Blog Knows Brooklyn."

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OUR OPINION

Roger's no MLK

HOW DARE THEY? The other day, when transit workers' union boss Roger Toussaint was sentenced to 10 days in jail for last year's illegal strike, the usual rabble rousers were at the microphones offering their support.

The rabble rousers in public office, that is.

That many of the supporters of Toussaint's illegal walkout are Brooklyn elected officials should come as no surprise — after all, one of them, Assemblyman Roger Green (D-Fort Greene), is a lawbreaker himself.

But what should come as a shock is the high-flying language used to describe Toussaint by four officials who are all seeking promotions to Congress: Green and City Councilman Charles Barron (D-Canarsie) in Rep. Ed Towns's district, Assemblyman Nick Perry (D-Flatbush) and Councilwoman Yvette Clarke (D-Flatbush) in the neighboring seat, which is being vacated by the retiring Rep Major Owens.

Clarke called Toussaint a "hero." Green added that the illegal strike will make him a "rock star" — and even linked Toussaint's leadership of the union to the historic civil rights battles of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Have you no sense of decency, Assemblyman? At long last, have you no sense of decency?

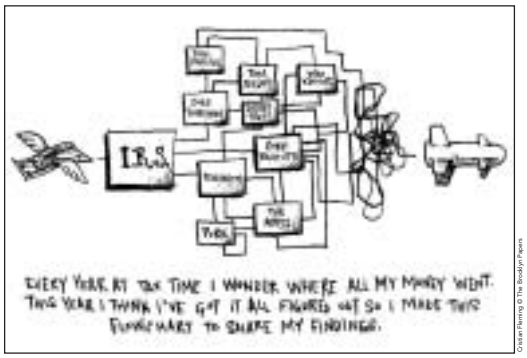
Martin Luther King, Jr. was a titanic figure of courage and leadership whose triumphant moment came, ironically, during the orchestrated boycott of the bus system in Montgomery, Alabama.

Green should review history before he tosses around King's name so easily: When King asked tens of thousands of people to walk to work, he did it to fight centuries of racism and decades of Jim Crow laws that denied black people basic civil rights.

When Toussaint forced people walk to work last year, he did so to force the state to pay his workers more — a noble goal, perhaps, but certainly not worthy of the King legacy of civil disobedience.

Perhaps it's too much to ask these "leaders" to put things in perspective. But is it too much to ask that people seeking higher office speak out for the hundreds of thousands of New York workers — the majority of them black and Latino — who were inconvenienced (or worse, lost a few days' pay) during Toussaint's illegal walkout?

ALL DRAWN OUT



Cristian Fleming © The Brooklyn Papers

LETTERS

Why does Ratner get state's $33M?

To the editor:

Your recent summary of my analysis of Forest City Ratner's economic projections for the Atlantic Yards project was too brief ("State gives Ratner $33M," April 1).

Forest City Ratner's claim that its project will generate $6 billion describes cumulative revenue over 30 years, but the present value, if the money were in hand, would actually be about $2 billion. The developer's use of a 30-year figure is like a homeowner claiming his $200,000 mortgage is worth $600,000 — because the latter figure is the sum of the payments.

So $2 billion should be FCR's starting point. Worse, either figure enormously overstates the revenue, because the developer assumes an economic boost from income taxes paid by new residents. (If so, then every luxury housing project would be an economic gold mine.)

And FCR lowballs the public costs, since the cost of traffic is ignored, and the developer assumes, for example, that there would be no additional cost to police the arena.

FCR drastically overestimates the project's potential fiscal benefits. My sources are hardly anti-project ideologues; they include the Independent Budget Office, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, and the Pratt Institute Center for Community and Environmental Development.

Norman Oder, Park Slope

Editor's note: *We direct readers to our editorial in the same issue, "Ratner's rubberstampers," (April 1) which echoes Oder's argument.*

To the editor:

I agree strongly that construction of an "arena" of 19,000 seats and the accompanying high-rise apartment buildings would be a major disaster ("Ratner's rubberstampers," April 1).

What kind of politician wants to wipe out an entire town to build a sports arena? Where are the plans for the new facilities needed — clean water going in, sewage coming out? Or for the gas and electricity lines, the shops, roads, garages, and schools needed for thousands of human beings trying to live in an overcrosded area, surrounded by sports fans and car horns, day and night?

Could Borough President Markowitz and other pols really believe that all people of common sense left Brooklyn when the Dodgers went west?

Brooklyn has become known as a borough of homes, but now some pols want to turn us into a money-making factory for developers.

These politicians need to get real and leave Brooklyn alone. Find some under-developed acreage in New York State that might welcome an arena, cars, horns, gasoline exhaust and trash.

Give it up, guys, quit dreaming. Don't destroy Brooklyn.

Veronica Blake, Prospect Heights

To the editor:

The precedent has been set by the Bronx. According to the City Council, it is acceptable to build sports arenas in public parks. We no longer need to have large, continuous parkland for our children to play in and for people to enjoy a bit of countryside and clean air in an urban setting.

If that is the case, the obvious solution in Brooklyn is to put the Nets arena in Prospect Park. There is plenty of space there for both an arena and for a large parking lot. Cars will have access to the parking lot by entering from at least three different access points to the park. If the arena is located near Ninth Street and Prospect Park West, it is very accessible to the Ninth Street F train stop. The F train is one of the least-crowded lines, so this will not create a problem of overcrowding.

What's more, it puts the arena across the street from the home of the biggest booster of the Nets coming to Brooklyn, Borough President Markowitz.

Lucy Koteen, Fort Greene

Clarification

Assemblymember Joan Millman (D-Park Slope) opposes Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards project, though she did vote last month in favor of an education budget that included $33 million for Ratner's development.

Send a letter

By mail: Letters Editor, Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201

By fax: (718) 834-9278.

By email: Letters@BrooklynPapers.com

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter).**Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.**

Heed MLK

To the editor,

I am appalled that in this day and age, people say publicly that someone should be disqualified from running for office because of the color of his skin ("Yassky meets blacks, branded a carpetbagger," April 1). David Yassky happens to be white, but didn't Martin Luther King Jr. urge us to judge people by the content of their character, not the color of their skin?

Like it or not, the 11th congressional district does contain some white citizens. Are we to say that none of them is ever allowed to run for Congress? Are the district's black leaders really prepared to endorse this sort of disenfranchisement?

Give the voters a little credit, and engage [Yassky] on the issues and his record.

Then let the voters make up their own minds. If they don't want to be represented by a white person, they will make that known at the polls.

Mary-Powel Thomas, Carroll Gardens

To the editor:

By any standard that I can define, racism is racism. If the tables were turned — if David Yassky were black and the pastors who barred him from speaking were white — there would be immediate comments on the tone of that meeting.

I have lived and voted in this congressional district for 22 years and have voted for Major Owens not because he is black or white, but because he was the best choice.

That said, as a white woman I feel very under-represented in Congress.

I haven't heard enough from any candidate for the 11th district to make up my mind. But one thing is sure, the color of his skin will not be an issue.

Shame on you, Brooklyn Papers.

Beverly Friedman, Park Slope

Editor's note: *We hope Friedman means "the color of* ***his or her*** *skin will not be an issue," as Council****woman*** *Yvette Clarke is also running.*

The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn's *REAL* newspapers

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Brooklyn vs. Bush

by Rahul Chadha

Producer Steve De Seve (third from right in black), the show's video artist Donald O'Finn (far right), and friends at a weekly Monday night viewing of *Brooklyn vs. Bush* on BCAT at Freddy's Backroom.

Adherents of the Brooklyn music scene may remember Steve de Seve from his days spent playing bass in his band, which doled out doses of an amalgam of the disparate genres of afrobeat and classic rock. Fans of the band's live show would likely volunteer that De Seve and his band mates used to get into their gigs, so much so that they would literally get into costumes. "The band just kept coming for rehearsal every week, and I'd just dress them up in costumes and shoot them," says de Seve.

The raw mix of artists, video equipment and what seems like a general disdain for conformity gave rise to what eventually became *Brooklyn vs. Bush*, a sketch comedy TV show shown on Brooklyn Community Access Television (BCAT) that delights in disdaining the political powers that be.

De Seve explains the show's genesis quite simply: "I couldn't manage a 20-piece band and do the television show at the same time. We started doing a couple goofy sketches and, of course, things turned to politics."

Fair enough.

De Seve's lack of interest in time management has blessed the borough with one of the funniest political satire shows about Brooklyn since…well, ever.

Watch one of the shows and you'll find Bush or some local Brooklyn figure who has the misfortune of having earned the derision of de Seve et al placed firmly in the comedic crosshairs. "We say it's an anti-Bush comedy show, Brooklyn style," says de Seve. "It's kind of unusual to do a local show about the president, but he's messing us up right here."

To hear de Seve tell it, the inspiration for much of the show's content is drawn from thin air. "You look around the room or you flip on the news and see what's going on," he says. Once a statue of Jesus (sans head) somehow ended up in de Seve's apartment, and thus became the inspiration for a sketch. But judging from the political nature of many of the show's sketches, it seems a foregone conclusion that de Seve is an avid consumer of the news. He says he often watches the PBS news magazine NOW, and is a semi-regular listener of Amy Goodman, host of the leftist news radio program *Democracy Now!* "I turn a lot of her stuff into sketches," explains de Seve. He adds, "One thing that I don't ever leave myself time for is writing, ever. Pretty much what you see on the air for a sketch is the amount of time I spent writing it."

It's interesting to note that de Seve is a veteran of more mainstream television production work, mostly because *Brooklyn vs. Bush* seems to be a conscious rejection of that sort of methodology. "We don't have any executive producers," explains de Seve. "In corporate television you have so many layers of executives and clients. You're working in an environment where there's no distinction between the Clorox ad and the television show. We're using the media in a way that doesn't have a commercial overtone."

To be sure, there's nothing to get in the way of de Seve and his cohorts' various messages (other than the lack of a sense of humor on the part of the viewer). A recently aired sketch revolved around a woman's attempt to determine if her husband was cheating on her. Using the phrase "I hate Bush" during a phone conversation warrants a phone tap by an operator at the National Security Agency. In the conversation that follows, the NSA agent offers the woman a myriad of surveillance techniques that can be employed to determine if the husband's purported infidelities are actually occurring. The operator even goes so far as to throw in an upsell towards the end of the pitch.

The show's political content can be traced all the way back to de Seve's formative years spent growing up in a family of social activists. The fact that his grandmother's house was seized through eminent domain practices has imbued *Brooklyn vs. Bush* with a particularly personal purpose for de Seve. Even Freddy's, the bar where de Seve and his friends congregate to watch the show air, lies in the footprint of Forest City Ratner's Nets stadium plans.

De Seve hopes that even the politically disinclined will get something out of the show. "If a person sees it and it causes some cognitive dissonance, they might become more open to new ideas." One of the show's major coups is that it manages to dodge the self-importance often found with social activism—which anyone with a sense of humor recognizes as comedy's death knell. "I don't find it useful to have pride or an ego," says de Seve. "I don't have time, I have to do a show every week."

Brooklyn vs. Bush *can be seen weekly in Brooklyn on BCAT on Mondays at 11:30pm on Time Warner Cable channel 56 and Cablevision channel 69 and streaming live online at www.bcat.tv/bcat.*

FIND THE COMPLETE BCAT PROGRAMMING GUIDE IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

HEALTH, MIND & BODY

Epilepsy diet for kids

New York Methodist Hospital

New York Methodist Hospital is the only hospital in Brooklyn to offer the ketogenic diet, a specialized treatment to help reduce seizures in children who do not respond to medication alone.

"The ketogenic diet was created in the 1920s but with the development of anticonvulsant medications, it was gradually forgotten," said Romaine Schubert, MD, chief of pediatric neurology at NYM. "However, because some children do not respond to these medications, the ketogenic diet was reintroduced in the late 1990s and is now achieving widespread usage," she said.

Similar to the Atkins diet, the ketogenic diet is a carefully calculated meal plan that is high in fat and very low in carbohydrates.

"Based on biblical stories, the ketogenic diet is a deliberate attempt to replicate the fasting state," said Schubert. "With the ketogenic diet, eating foods that are high in fat and very low in carbohydrates and proteins causes an increased blood level of chemicals called ketones, which reduce seizures," she said.

Although the diet has some similarities to the Atkins diet, the ketogenic diet is stricter.

"The parent has to be very motivated and exact; it truly is an all or nothing diet," said Schubert. "Coming off the diet even for one day can start the seizures again," she said.

Because of this, the demanding diet must be initiated under careful supervision of both physicians and dieticians. At NYM in Park Slope, Schubert works closely with dietician Diane Giammarino, RD, to ensure that the child's family is properly trained for successful maintenance. Items such as condiments and even toothpaste can alter the diet's results.

"The diet is extremely precise," said Giammarino. "For an infant, each day the parent needs to combine a specific amount of carbohydrate-free baby formula, carbohydrate powder and oil," she said. As the child grows, the diet must be continually adjusted to ensure that the child is receiving adequate nutrition. "Every month, we meet with the parents and child to recalculate the formula based on factors such as weight and blood levels," said Giammarino.

Although the diet is challenging for both the child and parent, the outcome can be very rewarding. "Within days of being on the diet, the child may have a dramatic drop in seizure rates and after two or three years, the seizures stop and the diet is no longer necessary," said Ms. Giammarino.

"It is so exciting to see a child doing well after having tried numerous ineffective treatments," she said. Dr. Schubert agrees. "The diet has worked extremely well, patients report feeling more alert and have significantly fewer or no seizures."

For more information on the ketogenic diet, call New York Methodist Hospital's division of pediatric neurology at (718) 780-5267.

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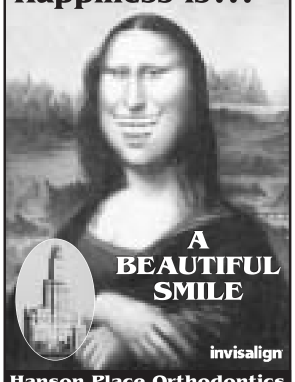

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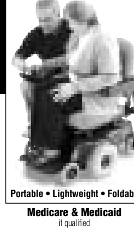

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Revere plant moves closer to condos

The Brooklyn Papers file / Tom Callan

The old Revere Sugar factory in Red Hook is one step closer to becoming housing, thanks to a ruling last week.

The Brooklyn Papers

A plan to convert the rusting Revere Sugar refinery on the Red Hook waterfront into luxury housing took a step forward last week, thanks to a city decision to exempt the site from a proposed industrial-only zone.

For owner Joe Sitt, the vote by a mayoral panel to exempt the Revere site from the city's proposed "Industrial Business Zone" in Red Hook, was a sweet victory. But for neighbors, it left a bitter aftertaste.

"We'll fight residential conversion there," said Earl Ray, director of Red Hook Rise, a community organization. "Entertainment, recreation, retail or manufacturing could all be good, but residential is never going to bring jobs."

Only one member of the panel voted against the exemption, citing the importance of the Erie Basin Barge Port, which services tugboats, shipping vessels and water taxis adjacent to the Revere site.

"The barge port is crucial to maintaining the city's infrastructure," said Adam Freedman. "Residential shouldn't even be on the table for the site."

But mayoral spokesman Ben Branham said that despite last week's exemption, Sitt's plans must still undergo a lengthy public approval process before he can realize his dream of turning the iconic waterfront refinery into a mixed-use development with apartments, stores and a fish restaurant.

"We're optimistic that … the Barge Port will be able to stay in operation," Branham said.

Sitt — a Brooklyn native who made his first fortune through the plus-size clothing chain Ashley Stewart — bought the rusting site for $40 million in August. It had been abandoned since 1985, when its former owner — a business partner of Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos — went bankrupt — *Ariella Cohen*

Where to GO…

Continued from page 11…

OTHER

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING: Bring in your old computers, peripherals, fax machines, TVs, VCRs, copiers, video games, cell phones and other small household equipment. 9 am to 1 pm. First Unitarian Congregational Society, Pierrepont Street between Clinton and Monroe streets. (718) 624-5466. **Free.**

EARTH DAY BENEFIT: Buffalo Exchange, a store of new and recycled clothes, hosts a benefit for The Humane Society of the US. 504 Driggs Ave. For time and info: www.buffaloexchange.com. (718) 384-6901.

STUDIO TOUR: Rotunda Gallery visits several art studios in Carroll Gardens. $55 per person. 10 am to 2 pm. Advance registration required. (718) 875-4047.

MOVIES AT THE MUSEUM: Brooklyn Museum presents short films and videos by William Wegman. $8, $4 students, free to members. Noon to 6 pm. 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-5000.

OPEN STUDIOS: Pratt Institute presents the work of its 140 graduate-student artists. 1 pm to 6 pm. 200 Willoughby St. (718) 636-3600. **Free.**

AUCTION: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. $3 admission. 1 pm. 414 80th St. (718) 745-0020.

PIER SHOW: Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition presents a preview of its upcoming show "Transformation," which will be held in Red Hook from May 13 to June 18. 1 pm to 5 pm. The Land Gallery, 67 Front St. (718) 596-2506. **Free.**

EARTH DAY LECTURE: New York Aquarium to offer Earth Day related events April 22-23, including a talk by marine biologists about natural disasters from 2 to 4 pm. $12 adults, $9 for children, ages 2-12, $10 for seniors age 65 and older, and free for children younger than 2. Surf Avenue at West Eighth Street in Coney Island. RSVP required at (718) 265-3448. For info about additional events, visit www.wcs.org.

ARTIST TALK: Safe-T-Gallery presents a talk by artist Stephane Dumas. 2 pm. 111 Front St. (718) 782-5920. **Free.**

TABLA RASA GALLERY: presents a talk by artist Thomas Bennett. 2 pm. 224 48th St. (718) 833-9100. **Free.**

BAMCINEMATEK: presents the film, "Three Times" (2005). $10. 7 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 777-FILM. www.bam.org.

LECTURE: Elizabeth Kolbert, staff writer for "The New Yorker," and former reporter for "The New York Times," gives a talk on global warming. $15. 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Reception follows. First Unitarian Congregational Society, Pierrepont Street between Clinton and Monroe streets. (718) 624-5466.

UNDERGROUND FILM FEST: New and emerging filmmakers showcase their films. Also, Q&A sessions, panel discussions, art exhibit and more. $8. Brooklyn Lyceum, Fourth Avenue at Union Street. For schedule, visit the Web site, www.brooklynunderground.org. (862) 485-0025.

SUN, APRIL 23

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

SPRING BABIES: Help Urban Park Rangers clean Audubon Center. Enter Prospect Park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. Call for time. (718) 965-8999. **Free.**

FAMILY WALK: Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment hosts a 1.5-mile walk through a salt marsh habitat in Floyd Bennett Field. $11, $9 members, $8 seniors and students, children free. 10 am to noon. (718) 788-8500, ext. 208.

BUS TOUR: Take a tour of Green-Wood and Woodlawn cemeteries. 10 am. Visit www.green-wood.com for info. Call for reservations. (718) 768-7300.

PERFORMANCE

BCBC: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts presents Yiddishe Cup Klezmer Band. $25. 2 pm. Walt Whitman Hall at Brooklyn College, one block from intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

CONCERT: Old Stone House continues its series called "Zeemeeuw" ("seagull" in Dutch). Today, "Finckel4cellos" book publication "Cellobration" features eight cellists. $10. 2 pm. JJ Byrne Park, Fifth Avenue between Third and Fourth streets. (718) 768-3195.

MUSIC OFF THE WALLS: Brooklyn Philharmonic, in conjunction with Brooklyn Museum's exhibit "Symphonic Poem: The Art of Aminah," presents "Homespun." Program features music by Mozart, Schubert, Dvorak and Bernstein. $15, $10 students, seniors and members. 3 pm. Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 488-5913.

CHAMBER MUSIC: Brooklyn Friends of Chamber Music presents Gay Gotham Chorus. $15. 3 pm. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, 85 S. Oxford St. (718) 625-7515.

BARGEMUSIC: Classical music concert of Martinu, Beethoven and Dvorak. $35, $30 seniors, $25 students. 4 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: presents "Point Break Live!," the stage adaptation of the 1992 Keanu Reeves extreme-sports show. Starring role will be selected at random from the audience. $12. 8 pm. 70 N. Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

NEXT WAVE: "The Importance of Being Earnest." 3 pm. See Sat., April 22.

MUSICAL COMEDY: "Pippin." 5 pm. See Sat., April 22.

THEATER: "Cabrini-Greene." 7:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

CHILDREN

PUPPETWORKS: "The Wizard of Oz." 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. See Sat., April 22.

NY TRANSIT MUSEUM: Learn how subway trains work. 2 pm to 4 pm. See Sat., April 22.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS: "Hip Hop Under the Big Top." 4 pm and 7 pm. See Sat., April 22.

OTHER

ARTS FESTIVAL: Opening day for annual Bay Ridge Festival of the Arts. 4 pm to 7 pm. Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard, 7420 Fourth Ave. (917) 803-5662. For info, www.brfa.org. **Free.**

CHURCH TOUR: St. Augustine Catholic Church invites the community to enjoy a guided look at the Victorian Gothic design featuring Locke and Tiffany glass, marble and bronze statuary. 3:30 pm. Sixth Avenue and Sterling Place. (718) 783-3132. **Free.**

READING: Night and Day Restaurant presents "Shakespeare's Birthday Bash," hosted by Jonathan Escobio. $7 drink and food minimum. Call for cover charge. 6 pm. 230 Fifth Ave. (718) 399-2161.

FILM: Grand Street Documentary Film Series presents "Dream Deceivers," by David Van Taylor. 8 pm. 295 Grand St. (718) 218-7866. **Free.**

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: "Point Break Live!," the stage adaptation of the 1992 Keanu Reeves extreme-sports movie. Starring role will be selected at random from the audience. $12. 8 pm. 70 N. Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

UNDERGROUND FILM FEST: New and emerging filmmakers showcase their films. Also, Q&A sessions, panel discussions, art exhibit and more. $8. Brooklyn Lyceum, Fourth Avenue at Union Street. Program info and time at www.brooklynunderground.org. (862) 485-0025.

Flatbush Av. taxi stolen by perp in a sailor suit

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

A 59-year-old yellow cab driver lost his wheels to a man in a white Navy uniform and an accomplice after pulling into a Flatbush Avenue gas station, near Fifth Avenue, early in the morning on April 8, police said.

A taxi driver had left the cab's engine running and turned away for a few moments when the nautically attired man ask him for directions. That's when a second stranger jumped into the driver's seat of the cab and floored it on Flatbush Avenue, heading for the bridge.

Police are tracking the thieves through the plate number on the yellow Ford Crown Vic, but they don't have a description of the second suspect.

Teen attacked

A group of teens brutally attacked a 13-year-old boy on West Ninth Street at dusk on April 4, scoring $20, police said.

The thugs surrounded the youngster as he walked between Hicks and Columbia streets, around 6:30 pm. They snatched two $10 bills from the youngster's right jacket pocket, and then started pummeling his face with their fists, leaving his left eye bruised, his lip swollen and his nose bloodied.

Police managed to arrest one of the teen terrors after they scattered from the scene. The 16-year-old Brooklyn girl faces felony robbery charges for her role in the heist.

Workers bound

They must have had to go really bad.

Two gun-wielding men burst into a sandwich shop in Metrotech on April 8 — claiming to need a restroom — and tied two workers up in duct tape while they robbed the place, police said.

The thugs entered the restaurant, in a building near Bridge Street, at 1:50 pm and one asked to use the bathroom. When the employees said no, the thug pulled a black gun and pointed it at her head.

The second thug then produced a silver pistol and the pair ushered the two workers into a back room, where they bound them together with the famously sticky tape.

The gunmen ransacked the register, collecting $300, plus $125 from the bound men. The thugs left the workers tied up and fled on Albee Square, toward Fulton Mall, police said.

A third worker at the shop saw the robbers bolt and rushed inside to find her coworkers tied up.

Police are now searching for two black men, one 5-foot-9, 180 pounds and wearing a blue snorkel jacket. The second man was 5-foot-5 and wearing a black jacket.

Bar burglarized

It's a small world, after all. Even a disguise can't mask the connections sometimes.

A would-be thief posed as a city health inspector to raid a Smith Street bar late last month, but he left empty handed — and possibly identified, according to police.

POLICE BLOTTER

The man arrived at the closed tavern, near Warren Street, around 8 am on March 23, while a worker was cleaning the watering hole in preparation for opening. The visitor described himself as a "Health Department employee here to check the grease traps and filters," and disappeared into the basement.

But the stranger's charade raised suspicions with the bar worker, who thought he recognized the pseudo-inspector from another, private-sector job.

By the time the cleaning man checked downstairs, a padlock on the office door had been clipped and the strange visitor had disappeared. Luckily, nothing of value had disappeared with him, bar workers told police when they finally reported the crime on April 9.

Chain snatched

A trio of thugs beat and robbed a man walking on Bond Street near Schermerhorn on April 4, police said.

The thieves snuck up behind the 43-year-old man around 10 pm, and one said, "That's a nice chain." The thugs then grabbed his gold chain from around his neck, and pummeled his face and forehead, leaving his cheeks swollen and bruised.

Police are searching for three black men; two were 6-foot-1 and dressed in black jackets.

iPods snatched

An unlatched window allowed a thief to snatch an iPod and charger from a second-floor Smith Street apartment, police said.

The 36-year-old victim plugged the digital music device into the wall when she left for work, around 4 pm on April 7. When she returned home, near Pacific Street, around 4:30 am the following morning, she discovered several items on her window sill had been rearranged.

Closer inspection revealed the iPod and charger were gone.

Invitation

Thieves had easy access to a host of high-tech hardware when a young woman left her hatchback open while unloading items before dawn in Boerum Hill.

The 27-year-old woman parked the car, a friend's vehicle, in front of her Union Street home, west of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and near Columbia Street, at 3:50 am on April 4, police said.

She popped the back, started to ferry items to her upstairs apartment, and left the hatch open.

On one her ventures upstairs, a thief moved in and loaded up on a high-end laptop, stashed in its own bag, a stand-alone computer hard drive and the ubiquitous iPod.

On her next trip, the victim saw the tail end of the burglary from her window, but didn't get a good look at the robber himself. She watched in horror as the thief dashed down the street with her goods, jump into a Ford van with California plates, and speed away.

DVR stolen

A robber broke into a satellite-television van and snagged a $600 piece of equipment while the driver was on an April 3 service call, police said.

The 45-year-old driver parked the 2004 Ford van on Livingston Street, near Boerum Place, around 9 am. When he returned from a service call an hour later, a thief had jimmied the passenger door open and taken a unit that can link a TV to digital video recordings.

F train robbery

A thief who claimed to see a stain on a man's jacket offered to help clean it off — but ended up cleaning out $1,800 from his victim's pockets on April 3, police said.

The trickster approached the 74-year-old man inside the F-train station at Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street, around 12:40 pm. Police think he followed the man from a nearby bank, where the victim cashed several checks.

"You have something on your jacket," the thief said as he neared the victim. The elderly man accepted the stranger's offer of help to clean off the "stain." But moments later, the victim realized his money was no longer in his pants pocket.

The "helpful" thief is a white Hispanic man, around age 25, 5-foot-9 and 180 pounds, police said.

Turf for Cadman Plaza

The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn Heights residents and veterans groups are saying thanks, but no thanks, to a city plan to cover over the badly worn lawn at Cadman Plaza Park with artificial turf.

Five days after Parks Department workers sealed off the heavily used dust bowl for renovation, activists stormed the site in protest on Sunday.

The opponents say the artificial turf is inappropriate at the site, which many people don't realize is Brooklyn's memorial to war veterans.

"You wouldn't put artificial turf at the Washington Monument," said Ralph Scotto, commander of the Veteran's Committee for Brooklyn and Staten Island.

"You wouldn't put that rubber grass in Arlington Cemetery."

Like many others, Scotto wore a button reading, "Plastic Grass in NYC Parks — Fuggedaboudit."

The Parks Department says artificial turf is more durable and cheaper to maintain than grass.

"[It] is impossible to maintain natural grass [on a playing field] without resorting to permanent fencing and persistent enforcement measures," Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe wrote to the Sierra Club, which objected to the fake flora.

"Neither option is desirable," Benepe said.

But Timothy Logan of the Sierra Club slammed Benepe's argument to the turf like a linebacker getting a sack.

"Artificial turf is like carpeting — and just like in your house, carpeting wears out," Logan said. "It ends up being more expensive than grass."

Members of the Cadman Park Community Council said they have already raised "five figures" for maintaining a grass field and are trying to set up a conservancy, a la Prospect Park or that other park in the middle of Manhattan.

"Everyone we talk to wants grass," said Katherine Pongracz, a member of the council. ***— Gersh Kuntzman***

The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

Just a few days after the Parks Department put up this fence around the War Memorial green in Cadman Plaza Park, veterans and park advocates rallied to oppose a city plan to install artificial turf on what has become a dust bowl.

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ADVERTISER FOCUS

Madd Fun for parties & play

Does your son want to ride bumper cars and play Lazer Tag for his birthday?

Is your daughter into rock climbing and mini-bowling?

Do your toddlers love to play in a ball pit and on amusement rides, while the older sibs are doing their thing?

Or maybe your kids are more interested in learning on computers, or arts and crafts?

All this and more awaits you at Madd Fun, a 41,000-square-foot, air conditioned fun and games facility, owned and operated by a local family. From Park Slope, it is a 20-minute drive along the Belt and Jackie Robinson parkways to this East New York amusement center. Madd Fun is also accessible by public transportation on the L train (E. 105th Street station) or B20, B60, B6 and B82 buses.

Birthday parties are a breeze at Madd Fun. After an hour of romping with friends on rides and interactive entertainment, your party guests will enjoy a great meal (choose from hot dogs, Chinese, Caribbean or pizza), cake, balloons and party bags in one of eight private party rooms. Then they can use their tokens on electronic games and win prizes with the tickets they earn.

Rides at Madd Fun include a carousel, bumper cars, Dumbo plane ride, mini train and mini roller coaster.

For interactive entertainment, choose from the Lazer Tag arena, mini bowling, arcade with video games, ball pit with tunnels and tube slides, electronic prize winning games and a rock-climbing wall.

Educational activities range from computer learning forums to arts and crafts.

While all children must be accompanied by adults (just as adults must accompany kids), Madd Fun has plenty of on-site security; additional adults can enjoy a shopping trip to the nearby Gateway Estates retail shopping center, with Target, Home Depot, BJ's Old Navy, Circuit City, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Marshall's and Staples. Your whole crew can enjoy dinner at Red Lobster, Olive Garden, or Boulder Creek after a full day of Madd Fun play.

Madd Fun is located at 303 Stanley Ave. at Hinsdale Avenue. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, noon to 9 pm; Fridays, noon to 10 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 am to 10 pm. To book your party, or for more information, call (718) 498-9002.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE. SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS. Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Fairmont Funding, LTD., its successors and/or assigns. Plaintiff, AGAINST Sofei Diaz, a/k/a S. Diaz, et. al. Defendant(s). Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly dated 2/2/2006. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the on 5/18/2006 at 3:00 PM premises known as 2306 Quentin Road, Brooklyn, New York 11229. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the New York City, Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings and State of New York, Section, Block and Lot: -6806-2 Approximate amount of lien $424,937.77 plus interest and costs Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #9734/05. Robert Sgarlato, Esq., Referee. Steven J. Baum, P.C., Attorney for Plaintiff, P.O. Box 1291, Buffalo, NY 14240-1291. Dated: 4/6/2006. BP15-18

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 7th day of April, 2006, bearing the Index Number N500252/2006, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of: Maria Rossillo. My present name is: Marie Rossillo a/k/a Maria Rossillo. My present address is: 1756 - 58th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11204. My place of birth is: Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is: September 5, 1968. BP15

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 7th day of April, 2006, bearing the Index Number N500250/2006, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of: Emilia Christina Pascal. My present name is: Emilia Christina Maynard a/k/a Emilia Christina Maynard-Pascal. My present address is: 512 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, New York 11225. My date of birth is: July 2, 1976. My place of birth is: Brooklyn, New York. BP15

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 29th day of July, 2005, bearing the Index Number N500737/2005, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of: Michael Greg Perkins. My present name is: Michael Greg Jankok a/k/a Michael Greg Perkins. My present address is: 609 East 55th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11203. My place of birth is: Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is: June 14, 1967. BP15

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 23rd day of March, 2006, bearing the Index Number N500232/2006, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants us the right, to have our child assume the name of, SIMON FEIN. Our present address is 2232 Homecrest Avenue, Brooklyn, New York; the date of our child's birth is April 1, 1988; the place of our child's birth is Brooklyn, New York; our child's present name is SIMON FTIHA. BP15

Notice is hereby given that an Order entereed by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 4th day of April, 2006, bearing the Index Number N500222/2006, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of: Emmanuel Browne. My present name is: Joey Emmanuel Browne. My present address is: 234 Sands Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201. My place of birth is: Anchorage, Alaska. My date of birth is: August 15, 1977. BP15

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF 78 BAY 22 LLC. Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law. FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company is: 78 BAY 22 LLC. SECOND: The county within this state in which the office of the Limited Liability Company is to be located is: Kings County. THIRD: The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against it may be served. The address within this state to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him is: The LLC, 1184 60th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11219. FOURTH: The Members and Manages shall not be liable to the Limited Liability Company or any Member or Manager for any liability, loss, damage, cost or expense which may arise out of or in connection with any act or conduct on the part of the Members or Managers without fraud or willful misconduct, including, but not limited to, the failure to obtain and/or maintain any insurance policy or the insufficiency of any coverage thereunder, or the failure to insure against any particular risk, any unforeseen losses caused by strikes, labor troubles, riots, fires, power outages, tornadoes, floods, acts of a public enemy, insurrections, acts of God, breakdown or failure of plant or machinery, the failure to perform its obligations hereunder due to restrictions or prohibitions imposed by law, rule, regulation or demand of any governmental agency, or from any other cause beyond the control of the Members or Managers. FIFTH: The Limited Liability Company shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless all Members, Managers, and former Members and Managers of the Limited Liability Company against expenses (including attorney's fees, judgments, fines, and amounts pain in settlement) incurred in connection with any claims, causes of action, demands, damages, liabilities of the Limited Liability Company, and any pending or threatened action, suit, or proceeding. Such indemnification shall be made to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of the State of New York, provided that such acts or omissions which gave rise to the cause of action or proceedings occurred while the Member or Manger was in performance of his or her duties for the Limited Liability Company and was not as a result of his or her fraud, gross negligence, willful misconduct or a wrongful taking. The indemnification provided herein shall inure to the benefit of successors, assigns, heirs, executors, and the administrators of any such person. SIXTH: The Limited Liability Company is to have perpetual existence from the effective date hereof until terminated upon the occurrence of any one of several events as set forth in the Limited Liability Company's Operating Agreement. SEVENTH: The purpose for which the Limited Liability Company is organized is to engage in any lawful act or activity within the purposes for which Limited Liability Companies may be organized pursuant to New York State Law. EIGHTH: The existence of the Limited Liability Company shall begin upon filing of the Articles of Organization with the office of the Secretary of State of the State of New York. Signed on May 20, 2005. /s/ Wai Yam Wong. Wai Yam Wong, Organizer. 1184 60th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219. BP14-19

ARTICLE OF ORGANIZATION OF 762-59th STREET REALTY LLC. Under and Pursuant to Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law of the State of New York. FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company 762-59th STREET LLC. SECOND: The County within this state in which the office of the Limited Liability Company is to be located is: KINGS. THIRD: The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against the Limited Liability Company may be served, and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him is c/o The Limited Liability Company, 1184 60th Street, IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto sign my name and affirm that the statements perjury this 19th day of November, 2002. S/BENNY C. FONG. Benny C. Fong. Organizer. BP14-19

ARTICLE OF ORGANIZATION OF GREAT 8 REALTY LLC. Under and Pursuant to Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law of the State of New York. FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company GREAT 8 REALTY LLC. SECOND: The County within this state in which the office of the Limited Liability Company is to be located is: KINGS. THIRD: The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the Limited Liability Company upon whom process against the Limited Liability Company may be served, and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Limited Liability Company served upon him is c/o The Limited Liability Company: 1184-60th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11219. IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto sign my name and affirm that the statements perjury this 5th day of September, 2003. S/BENNY C. FONG, Benny C. Fong, Organizer. BP14-19

F060227000991. New York State, Department of State, Division of Corporations, State Records And Uniform Commercial Code, 41 State Street, Albany, NY 12231. www.dos.state.ny.us. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF LMTD, LLC. Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law. FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is: LMTD, LLC. SECOND: The company within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to be located is: Kings County, New York. THIRD: The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The address writing or without this state to which the Secretary of State mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: Justine Luongo, Esq., 349 Van Brunt Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231. Leisah Swenson, Name of Organizer. BP12-17

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NOTICE OF SALE. SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS. BANKERS TRUST COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, Plaintiff against JOHN SYKES, et al. Defendant(s). Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly granted 2/6/2006, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at 360 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY 11201 in Room 261 on 4/20/2006 at 3:00PM premises known as 398 Hancock St., Brooklyn, NY. ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Block 1841 Lot 17 Approximate amount of lien $474,207.25 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment, Index #:18543/01. MARK ANTHONY LONGO, Esq., Referee. Sheldon May & Associates, Attorneys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, New York 11570. Dated: 3/7/2006. Our File#: 15822 jvl. BP12-15

New York State, Department of State, Division of Corporations, State Records And Uniform Commercial Code, 41 State Street, Albany, NY 12231. www.dos.state.ny.us. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF 713 43rd Street, LLC. Under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law. FIRST: The name of the limited liability company is: 713 43rd Street, LLC. SECOND: The county within this state in which the office of the limited liability company is to be located is: Kings. THIRD: The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The address within or without this state to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is: Ray Chen. 4205 8th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11232. BP12-17

NOTICE OF SALE. SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY. Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, et al, Plaintiff(s) vs. Barry Davis, et al, Defendant(s). Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill NY 12524 (845) 897-1600. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered herein on or about November 2, 2005, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at Room 261 at 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201. On May 11, 2006 at 3:00 PM Premises known as 478 Junius Street, Brooklyn, New York 11212, ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York. Block: 3814 Lot: 138 As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment $248,573.18 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 3437/2005. Leon Beerman, Esq., REFEREE. BH14-17

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Tues., April 18, before 7:20pm
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Lesbians on White House 'roll'

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

They're here, they're queer and they're going to the Easter Egg Roll at the White House — thanks to a Brooklyn couple.

Park Slopers Colleen Gillespie and Alisa Surkis will lead the estimated 200 gay and lesbian families that plan on attending Monday's traditional holiday event at the president's house.

Gillespie and Surkis took their 3-year-old daughter, Ella, to the egg roll last year, but it was rained out. So this year, they decided to organize dozens of other gay and lesbian families to show up en masse.

"We want our daughter to have fun, of course, but also want to have our families be visible at a great American event," Surkis said.

Critics said the gay families are just trying to politicize a kid's event that dates back to the late 1800s.

"It's facetious … to say they're not making a political statement," Mark D. Tooley, the director of the United Methodist committee at the Institute on Religion and Democracy, told the New York Times.

But Surkis called that argument "backwards."

"We're not the ones who made our families political," she said.

"Our families have been attacked for political gain — and the way they do it is by dehumanizing us. So the only way to fight back is to show who we are: real families with real children."

Surkis said the gay and lesbian families would be very visible, thanks to rainbow-colored silk leis. She doesn't think the accessory will stand in the way of her, Gillespie and Ella's entrance.

"I not aware of any White House policy against wearing a lei to the egg roll," she said.

Of course, it's not the first time that the Easter Egg Roll has had a political subtext. In 1953, Mamie Eisenhower was apparently so appalled that there were no black children at the event that the next year, the egg roll was finally desegregated.

Park Slopers Colleen Gillespie (left) and Alisa Surkis hold their daughter Ella. All three will attend Monday's Easter egg roll at the White House.

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by local author **Laura Lonshein Ludwig**, playwright, actress, poet, director & producer of a long-running top-rated TV show.

Performed on NYC Dept. of Ed radio station 91.5 FM on *Everything Goes*, Monday, April 3, excerpts from her latest book.

Thursday, May 18, 7:30 pm, Laura will perform at the Spoken Words Cafe, 226 Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn Poets & musicians welcome, open mike follows, $6 total. Robert Dunn, host.

Robo Sapiens

Robo Sapiens is a full-length book of comic screenplays & poetry.

- "Laura Lonshein Ludwig's love for the Earth and reverence for what is fair shine through her work. She pulls you into her rare prism of reality, which reflects back on your own, bringing on the inevitable AH-HAHH-HHM" – Al Lewis, Actor, Green Party Candidate for Governor of New York
- "I think of Laura Ludwig affectionately and respectfully as the first new poetry superstar of the Millennium." – Joe Franklin, Broadcaster, WOR-AM, WBBR-FM
- "Laura Lonshein Ludwig's narrative poetry takes her driven characters on a frenetic ride through a science fiction landscape that resonates with the world around us., leaving us seeing the familiar for the first time" – Frederick GeoBold,Producer/Host, The Light Show, WBAI-FM
- "I read Laura Lonshein Ludwig's poetry, screenplays and short stories. She is incredible, and so good that I collaborated with her on a screenplay that I am producing with Joe Franklin, The Desk. Laura has a great imagination, terrific wit. Laura Ludwig is my definition of Mel Brooks, she is genius." – Richard Ornstein, Producer, Screenwriter
- "Laura Lonshein Ludwig's poems are excursions into complex thought and even more complex feelings. They are incantatory, dreamlike, and multidimensional mediations which, in their passionate intellectuality and articulate humanity, come to grips with the frightening aspects of how we live now." – Dr. Joseph S. Salemei, Poet, Translator Scholar: Dep't of Humanities, New York University and Department of Classics at both Brooklyn College and Hunter College, City University of New York

Sounds Like a Plot

Characters from Laura Lonshein Ludwig's first book, *Robo Sapiens*, to her new book *Sounds Like a Plot* – another classic by the recipient of four Poets and Writers grants from the New York Sate Council of the Arts and author of five screenplays. *Sounds Like a Plot* was reviewed by the legendary comic Professor Irwin Corey. Ms. Ludwig is listed in Who's Who of American Women 2002-2003. This is a book of satire about city life.

Reflections for the Renaissance

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Available at: City Lights Booksellers, San Francisco, CA; St. Marks Bookshop, Manhattan, NY
All major websites. See www.bn.com for other work by Laura Lonshein Ludwig

Celebrate Earth Day
with Gowanus Canal CDC

gCCDC

2nd Street
(between Bond and the Canal)
Saturday, April 22nd
11:00am - 5:00pm

Rain Date: Sunday, April 23rd

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FAA AIRSPACE REDESIGN
PUBLIC MEETING

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The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Eastern Terminal Service Area, is proposing to redesign the airspace in the New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia Metropolitan areas.

Air traffic control procedural changes associated with the proposed airspace redesign have the potential to impact the environment, therefore a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been developed as required by the National Environment Policy Act (NEPA).

The FAA will host a series of public meetings to discuss the DEIS. The meetings will follow a workshop format, with opportunity for one-on-one discussions with FAA representatives.
The meeting schedule is as follows:
6:30-6:45p.m. Sign In
6:45-7:00p.m. Video
7:00-8:00p.m. One-on-One Discussions
8:00-9:00p.m. Question and Answer Panel
Public comments will be taken throughout the duration of each meeting.

The following Website and toll free number have been established to provide meeting information:
http://www.faa.gov/nynjphl_airspace_redesign/
1-866-EISLine (1-866-347-5463)

Written comments may be sent to:
Steve Kelley, FAA-NAR, c/o Ms. Nessa Memberg,
12005 Sunrise Valley Rd., MS C3.02Stop,
Reston, VA 20191 or E-Mail to Faa.deis@ngc.com
The formal comment period will end June 1, 2006.

Public Meetings will be held from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the following locations in your local area:

Tuesday, April 25th: Bishop Ford High School
500 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (866-347-5463)

Wednesday, April 26th: Public School 138
2060 Lafayette Ave., Bronx, NY 10473 (866-347-5463)

Thursday, April 27th: Affinia Hotel
371 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10001 (212-563-1800)

Tuesday, May 2nd Public School 207
159-15 88th Street, Howard Beach, NY 11414 (866-347-5463)

Cops seek chain snatcher

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

68th Precinct

Talk about salt in the wound: a mugger mocked his elderly victim after robbing her just steps from her home on Fourth Avenue and 82nd Street.

The thief crept up behind the 74-year-old woman just after 3:30 pm on April 2 and snatched two gold chains from her neck, police said. As he dashed down the street, the robber looked back and waved at his victim, cops said.

The victim and another witness described the mugger as a white man, 5-foot-8 and 155 pounds, dressed in a blue jacket and blue baseball hat.

Store targeted twice

Burglars broke into a Third Avenue business closed for the night and stole $1,400 in cash and merchandise, marking the second time the discount store has been robbed in recent weeks, police said.

Workers closed up the 99-cent store, near 72nd Street, around 9:30 pm on April 2. When a worker arrived the next morning, he discovered an air-conditioning unit in a back window had been kicked in and the cash register emptied and tossed aside.

Also missing was $400 from inside the register's drawers and $1,000 in pre-paid telephone cards.

Workers told police the store was robbed in a similar fashion two weeks ago, but the owner did not report that crime.

Hi-tech heist

Computer equipment worth more than $6,500 disappeared from a health care facility on Seventh Avenue, police said.

An employee at the Metropolitan Jewish Health System said the company received a half-dozen high-end laptops on March 23. The computers were stashed in a locked room, but at least 10 people had access to the area.

When workers checked the computer room on March 25, the laptops were gone. It is unclear why the company waited so long to report the crime.

Thieves at work

Robbers snatched at least four vehicles from local streets over several days this week, three parked within a 10-block radius of each other, according to police reports.

One victim lost his 1991 Toyota Camry during the 15 minutes he spent in a doctor's office on 76th Street, near Fourth Avenue. The 76-year-old man left the gray sedan out front at noon on April 4, but when he returned, it had disappeared.

Someone stole a green 1999 Plymouth SUV from 74th Street, near Ridge Boulevard. The owner, a Staten Island woman, parked the vehicle at 8:15 pm on April 2 and returned early the following morning to find it gone.

A 1996 yellow GMC van disappeared from its spot on Fourth Avenue, near Senator Street. The 45-year-old owner left the van at 9 pm on April 2 and arrived early the next morning to find it missing.

And finally, a 39-year-old man parked his 1992 Chevy SUV in front of his home, on 82nd Street near 10th Avenue, around 8 pm on April 2. But only 12 hours later, the car was gone.

62nd Precinct

iPod saved

An 18-year-old boy took a beating, but held on to his iPod, when he was attacked on the D train March 5, police said.

The teenage thief approached the victim at 10:40 am, as the Manhattan-bound subway pulled away from the New Utrecht station, at 79th Street. The thug demanded the victim's music player and when the boy refused, his attacker began to beat him, trying to wrench the device free.

But the thief failed, and the victim escaped and notified the train crew, who called police. Officers from the 62nd Precinct met the train at the 71st Street station and arrested the 17-year-old robbery suspect.

Posse attacks teen

"I'll be back in five" wasn't just a friendly adieu.

A teenage thug taunted a 15-year-old boy walking home from school on Bay Parkway, near 77th Street, around 5 pm on April 10, then returned moments later with reinforcements, police said.

The five additional brutes helped the first thug jump the victim, beating his face bloody and emptying his pockets of a Metrocard and $60.

The victim described his initial attacker as a white teen, around 16, but didn't remember much about his fellow travelers.

Purse snatched

A woman became the victim of a purse-snatcher after dark on April 10, police said.

The thug crept up behind the woman as she walked along Kings Highway, near West Fourth Street, just after 10 pm. He grabbed the bag from her right hand and dashed down the block to a white Jeep, parked on Kings Highway, and sped away.

The victim said she didn't see the man who got her bag stuffed with credit cards, a driver's license and $25.

Suspicious swish

A Bay Ridge man lost his wallet when a thief brushed by him on April 5, police said.

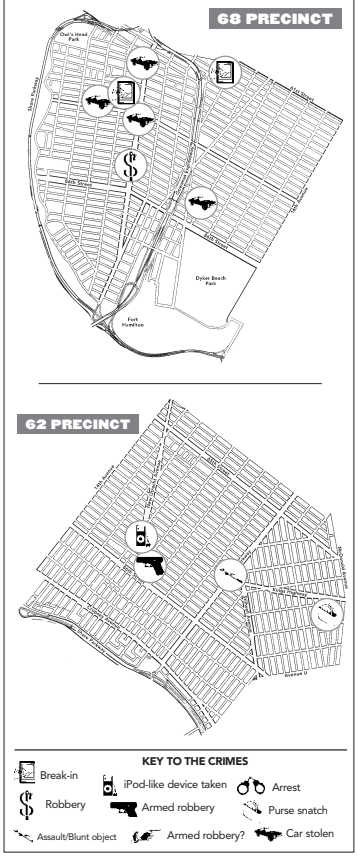
Someone lightly bumped against the 45-year-old as he headed toward the subway along West Fourth Street, near Avenue U, around 12:30 pm. The victim didn't think anything of it — at first. But a block later, he noticed his wallet — containing his driver's license, credit cards and $45 — was missing.

Garage thief nabbed

A neighbor held an armed robber captive until police arrived at the scene on April 7, police said. The thief slipped inside the unlocked garage at the 82nd Street home, near 16th Avenue, moments before noon. When the 32-year-old homeowner discovered the prowler she yelled, "Stop, get out of here." Her cries sent him scrambling over the backyard fence, across a neighbor's yard.

But the neighborhood Good Samaritan held the thief until police arrived moments later. Police confiscated two knives and various tools when they arrested the 36-year-old man on burglary charges.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
WHERE CRIMES TOOK PLACE



Bar brawl ends with stabbing

The Brooklyn Papers

One man landed in police custody and another in the hospital after a late-night argument at a Bay Ridge bar turned violent on April 5, police said.

A 35-year-old man pulled a knife around 11:30 pm, when he decided angry words were not enough to settle a dispute with a 32-year-man in the bar area of an Asian restaurant, near 101st Street.

Police arrived moments later to find the younger man with a knife wound on his neck, but the attacker had fled the scene.

Officers from the 68th Precinct searched the area and found a suspect — a resident of Bay Ridge, who was arrested on assault and weapons possession charges. Police also recovered a folding knife at the bar, but they are still missing a motive in the attack.

Paramedics transported the victim to Victory Memorial Hospital in critical condition. Police did not release his name and an update on his condition was not available by press time.

— Stainton

Photo: Assembly

State Sen. Diane Savino on the Senate floor in Albany.

Savino pushes health code for Wal-Marts

The Brooklyn Papers

Senate Republicans shot down a proposal by state Sen. Diane Savino (D-Bay Ridge) to require big box stores like Wal-Mart to provide some health coverage for their employees.

On April 10, the Republican majority denied Savino's request to bring her proposal, Fair Share Health Care Fund, to the floor for an up or down vote.

The status quo is "not fair to the employees and it's certainly not fair to the taxpayers who have to pick up the tab," Savino said.

The bill would have required stores that employ at least 500 people — and sell some groceries — to provide minimum health coverage to their staffs.

Supporters argued that the denial of health coverage is unconscionable, and pointed to other states, like Maryland, that have passed similar legislation.

"No employee of a multi-billon dollar, multi-national corporation should be forced to go without medical care," said Savino.

Wal-Mart pays its sales associates $8.23 an hour, and $13,861 annually, The Brooklyn Papers reported in January. And the company gives fewer than half of its workers health coverage.

Wal-Mart has built an empire based on low prices — though has not yet to realized its vision of opening a store in New York City.

— Dana Rubinstein

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SUNDAY - April 16

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	The Christian Family	Special	Bible Faith Telecast	Mind, Body & Soul Connection	La Verdados Hara Libres	Mariners' Temple Moments	Moments of Grace	We Speak to Nations	Special	Expressions of Faith	Burning Bush Ministries	Agape Speaks	Community Events	Theillah	Walking in the Spirit	The Prophetic Word	The Universe of Yahweh	Voice of Bethel	Faith Will Light The Way	Soul Seekers for Christ	Overcoming Through Holiness	Bread for Living	Bethany Hour	Hope Connection	Triumphant Church of Jesus	First Baptist Church	Voice of Truth	Preparing The Way for the Coming King	Body and Soul Spiritual Revival	Midnight Gospel Hour	Fountain Christian Center	Special	Community Calendar
35	68	Strong Tower Faith Temple	Ever Increasing Gospel	Something Different	Crossroads	Islam	Special	Voice of Deliverance	Jesus is Lord	Gideon Flavor	America Come Back to God	Special	Eckankar Presents	Rock of Holiness	The Word of Salvation	Spirit Anointing the Word	Maitreya	Nehemiah Christian Outreach	Manna Church	Word of Hope	Faith Now	Pentecost of Fire	Tomorrow's Word	Le Chemin du Salut	Tradition Lakaille	Jah Gospel	Inspirational Vybes	Full Effect	Full Faith Ministries	The Gospel Showcase	This is Your Bible	Perfect Peace Ministries	Special	Community Calendar
56	69	Harvest Time Broadcast	Emmanuel God with Us	Beyond Today	Revival Services	Mas Que Vencederos	Revelation of Israel	Calvary Prayer & Worship Center	Special	Todos es Posible para Dios	La Voix de L'Eglise du Christ	Can We Talk	Praise Tabernacle	Prayer & Praise	Understanding the Spirit You Are	Progressive Pentacostalism	Christian Issues	Sharing the Word	Triumphantly Yours	Hurting Hearts	Truth According to the Bible	Pleasant Grove Tabernacle	The Way of God	Heure de L'Alliance	Occupy Until He Comes	Lion of Judah & the Lamb	Vision of Truth Outreach	Christ est La Reponse	Grace & Truth Ministries	Gospel On The Move	How to Study the Bible	He That Hath An Ear	Special	Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar

MONDAY - April 17

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	Special	Special	Senior Care & Lifestyles	Special	Special	Special	Haiti Diaspo Magazine	Defkon City	Konesans se Riches	Special	Special	Mexico en la Piel	Special	Thinking Minds	Community Calendar		Black Arts & Culture USA	Undercover TV	Zendik Perspective	The Beverly Show	The Inner Beat	Gallerie Des-Arts	Caribbean Body Talk	Ritmo Tropical	Caribbean Classroom	Straight Up!	What's the 411	Soca Tempo	GX TV	Community Talk	Channel Zero	Special	Community Calendar
35	68	Race & Reason	Lifetalk	Revealing the Truth	Special	Special	Special	Special	Special	Special	Panama Canal Commission	Special	Rendezvous avec La Verite	Estercita Figueroa	Musica de todos los Tiempos	Community Calendar		Gente Y Cultura	La Nueva Ola	La Communidad Y Su Cultura	El Taino Show	Tu Y Yo	El Show de William Guzman	Diamante	Salsa En La Calle Live	TV Exclusivo	Voice of Kham	Snackonart	Hardfire	Special	The Gary Null Show	Mad Ciphas	The Adventures of Electra Elf	Community Calendar
56	69	Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman		BCAT's Brooklyn Review	BCAT's Reporter Roundtable	Education and Perspectives		Health Center	HealthWatch	CMS & You	BCAT Sports Talk	Your Community Today	Brooklyn 45 with Sam Taitt	Special	Special	Community Calendar		Classic Arts Showcase		Manhattan Neighborhood Network		Education and Perspectives		Health Center	Neighborhood Beat: BoCoCa	CMS & You	BCAT Sports Talk	Your Community Today	Brooklyn 45 with Sam Taitt	The Spew	Brooklyn vs. Bush	Classic Arts Showcase		Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar

TUESDAY - April 18

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	Light of Kabbalah	Mindlight	The Beverly Copeland Report	Community Health Update	John Baxter	Special	The Barry Z. Show	Special	Ardzagang	Youth and Family Empowerment	Special	Jaron Eames Show	Jazzy Jazz Festival	Jim Duckworth and Friends	Community Calendar		Ancestor House	Afrikan Scholar Warrior	The Beverly Copeland Report	Ghetto Chronicles	John Baxter	Sam Sloan Show	The Barry Z. Show	1001 Ways to Cope with Stress	Ardzagang	Youth & Family Empowerment	Special	Jaron Eames Show	Jazzy Jazz Festival	Jim Duckworth and Friends	City Scope Presents	Camera Man Presents	Community Calendar
35	68	Italian Americans Mid-Life Crisis	The Lina del Tinto Show	Sahaja Yoga	Miracles	A Meeting with Eli	Words of Peace	First Alternative	Special	Special	Theindergroup	Special	B.S.	Welcome Aboard	Special	Community Calendar		Italian Americans Mid-Life Crisis	The Lina del Tinto Show	Sahaja Yoga	Miracles	Le Journal Sportif	Haiti Kreyol/ Haiti Senou	First Alternative	Self Awareness Who's Truth	Verba Lynette Presents	T.A.K. Musix	Skateboarding, Chicks, and Rock & Roll	Jaygeeoh Presents	Welcome Aboard	Fred's Interesting Topic of the Week	Desperate Husbands	Cliktrax	Community Calendar
56	69	Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman		Region 6	Special	That's Brooklyn	BC Presents	Kingsborough Focus	Special	Special	Special	Special	Special	Special	Special	Community Calendar		Classic Arts Showcase		Region 6	Special	That's Brooklyn	BC Presents	Kingsborough Focus	Neighborhood Beat: Brooklyn by the Sea	Special	Special	Special	Special	BRICstudio Presents	Special	Classic Arts Showcase		Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY - April 19

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	Special	Special	The Phyllis Taliaferro Show	Special	OTV	Special	Special	African Music Unlimited	TeleKreyol Plus	C.A.C.E. International	Special	People's Advocacy Group	Paper Tiger Television	Beulah Land	Community Calendar		Special	Kagie22	The Phyllis Taliaferro Show	Producer Profile	OTV	JoJo's Caribbean Showcase	Tourislokal	African Music Unlimited	TeleKreyol Plus	C.A.C.E. International	L'Encrofarts	People's Advocacy Group	Paper Tiger Television	Beulah Land	Goddesses	POX TV	Community Calendar
35	68	A Cable of Jewish Life	The Jewish Entertainment Hour	Judaism	Disabled Hotline	The Rising Stars	A Rood Awakening	Imani's Corner	Israel Update	The Last Hour	NYC Underground	Education	Greenvision	Special	Special	Community Calendar		A Cable of Jewish Life	The Jewish Entertainment Hour	Judaism	Disabled Hotline	The Rising Stars	Special	Imani's Corner	Israel Update	The Last Hour	Reach Out	Education	Greenvision	Abu A.Q. Abu Show	The Rare Groove Revolution	Damented Mindz	Pretty Things	Community Calendar
56	69	Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman		BCAT's Brooklyn Review	BCAT's Reporter Roundtable	Everything Brooklyn		Special	Special	Special	HealthWatch	BCAT Sports Talk	BCAT Presents	BCAT Presents	More With Assembly Update	Community Calendar		Classic Arts Showcase		BCAT's Brooklyn Review	BCAT's Reporter Roundtable	Everything Brooklyn		Special	Neighborhood Beat: Bed-Stuy	Special	Special	BCAT Sports Talk	BCAT Presents	BCAT Presents	More With Assembly Update	Classic Arts Showcase	Classic Arts Showcase	Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar

THURSDAY - April 20

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	Special	Special	Shocking & Awful	Lawline	Special	Special	On the Cutting Edge	Tele Nago	Haiti Culture	Special	Xin Tang Ren	Qing Liu	Colorful World	Science & Health	Community Calendar		Mosaic Arts	The Frankie Show	American Family Association	Lawline	The Torch	Special	On The Cutting Edge	Tele Nago	Haiti Culture	Falun Gong	Xin Tang Ren	Qing Liu	NTDTV	Special	Tripwave	Graffiti NYC	Community Calendar
35	68	Special	Career Talk	Special	Rent Wars News	Black Men Screaming		Adopting Teens & 'Tweens	Community	Songs of Freedom	Discovering Yourself	Artistic Talents	The Bernice Brooks Show	Radio Concrete Show	Special	Community Calendar		Special	Career Talk	Special	Rent Wars News	Black Men Screaming		Adopting Teens & 'Tweens	Community	Songs of Freedom	Discovering Yourself	Artistic Talents	The Bernice Brooklyn Show	The Ron Alexander Variety Show	Bel Vision	Hood Hitz Video	L.O.P.T.V.	Community Calendar
56	69	Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman		Special	Transit Transit News Magazine	Brooklyn Bred	BCAT's Brooklyn Review	BCAT's Reporter Roundtable	Special	BCAT's Brooklyn Elected Officials	Assembly Update	Special	Legisl. Report w/ Sen. Marty Golden	Report From The State Senate	Inside Congress	Community Calendar		Classic Arts Showcase			Transit Transit News Magazine	Brooklyn Bred	BCAT's Brooklyn Review	BCAT's Reporter Roundtable	Neighborhood Beat: Williamsburg/ Greenpoint (debut)	Brooklyn Elected Officials	Assembly Update	Special	Legislative Report with Sen. Golden	Report From The State Senate	Inside Congress	Classic Arts Showcase		Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar

FRIDAY - April 21

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	Special	Special	Eleanor	Special	Special	H2O-TV	Love Around the World	Special	Spirit	Next Level	Special	Let's Get Started Home Improvement Show	Education	Animals Who Need Homes Now	Community Calendar		Special	Coup D'Oeil	Macaya Ecran	Culture Creole	Companion Animal Network	NYC Horse & Rider	Globetrotter Jim Haggins	Alexandra's Psychic Eye	Della Peppo Village	Hey Harmonica Man	African Media	Bike TV	Street Knowledge	Whatz Up TV	NY Rocks	Urban Varieti	See Extended Listing Below
35	68	Special	Special	Special	A Chat with Glendora	Style Masters TV	Showbiz Entertainment TV	Video Explosion	Telemix	Hip Hop Secrets	Zashen TV	Starlight Magazine from HarlemUSA	Total Package of NY	Chris Music Concepts	Unsigned Artists	Community Calendar		Bucktown USA TV	A&B Video Shows	New Flavor Videos	37 Deep TV	Caribbean Basement	Johnny Gold Players	Ghettonomics	Exotic Videos	Flex-n-Brooklyn	Bless Me Video	Flashbacks	B-5 Plus	Blaster Vision	Lebroz James Show	Entertainment Vibes	Concrete TV	See Extended Listing Below
56	69	Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman		Classic Arts Showcase						Inside Park Slope Food Co-op	Special	Arts Insight	Special	Neighborhoods Today	Special	Community Calendar		Classic Arts Showcase		BronxNet		Special	Special	Special	Neighborhood Beat: BoCoCa	Inside Park Slope Food Co-op	Congressman Ed Towns Presents	Arts Insight	Special	Neighborhoods Today	Special	Community Calendar		See Extended Listing Below
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				See Extended Listing Below

TW	CV	1:00am	1:30am	2:00am	2:30am	3:00am	3:30am	4:00-9:00am
34	67	G. Fn. Entertainment	SNS	In Da Hood	What's That Smell	Big Girl Style Video Show	Hellrazor	Community Calendar
35	68	Future Starz	Nasty Video	Mark After Dark	Harlem/ Brooklyn Street	Mindwipe	The Flip Side	Community Calendar
56	69	Community Calendar		Community Calendar		Community Calendar		Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar		Community Calendar		Community Calendar		Community Calendar

TW TIME WARNER CABLE Channels 34, 35, 56, 57

CV CABLEVISION Channels 67, 68, 69, 70

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SATURDAY - April 22

TW	CV	9:00am	9:30am	10:00am	10:30am	11:00am	11:30am	12:00pm	12:30pm	1:00pm	1:30pm	2:00pm	2:30pm	3:00pm	3:30pm	4:00pm	4:30pm	5:00pm	5:30pm	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm	12:00am	12:30am	1:00-9:00am
34	67	Special	Special	Smart Kids	Special	Access Kids Power	Myself and Others	Ghoul A Go-Go	Flix	Groundwork for Youth	L.Y.F.E. S.U.X.	MCPS	Neva Ran Neva Will	Animal Shopping Club Network	Alternative Medicine	Albanian Culture	Dave's Crib	Love of the Craft	Natural Healing	Caribbean Images	El Show De Max	Dominican Community	Riconcito Panmeno En Nueva York	Sabor Mexicano	Adelitas Mexicanos	Dialogando y Cantando	Nowadayz Dancehall Video	Frenyc TV	Hits & Flicks	Hit Record Nightlife Video	Ron Manzi Talk	Dance Hall World	The Hambone Show	Community Calendar
35	68	Grados Wing Chun	Special	Visitation Hawks		Camp Friendship Basketball	Special	Jacboxer Show	Wedding Memories	Special	Perils for Pedestrians	Heal Ministering Health	Imani House Building	M/S Video Pro	Evvy: Cultural Interchange	Lucy's Hair	Urban Threshold Television	Sound Booth	Keeping it Real with Shannon	Rehoboth for You	Caribbean Vibe	Ina Dillon Show	CTV: Caribbean Television	The Safia Selvwright Show	Inside the Caribbean	Island Session	Soca TV	World Dance 2	Latin Jazz Alive & Kickin'	Tropical Reflection	Whatz Going On	IFTV	Soundwave TV	Community Calendar
56	69	InJustice Street Talk	Politics as Usual	Creating Black Wealth	Special	BCAT Sports Talk	On the Mat	The Supreme Master Ching Hai	Brooklyn Cyclones Dugout Show	HealthWatch	Be Good To You	Specialized Fitness	Jarvelle Show	Falun Dafa Around the World	Baj-aerobics	Healthvox	Cooking & More with Esther	Too Sweet Video	Talk of New York	Da Bomb	Working People	BCAT Sports Talk	Dyke TV	Zoom In	BCAT's Brooklyn Review	BCAT Reporter Roundtable	Messages with Lion	Cabane Creole	Thirty & Over	Gillis & Barry Show	ZYNC TV	Shadow Bizness	WTF 2000 Nightsport	Community Calendar
57	70	Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar				Community Calendar

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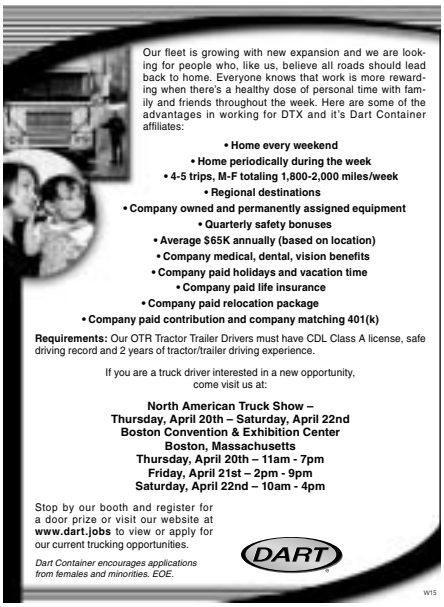

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W15

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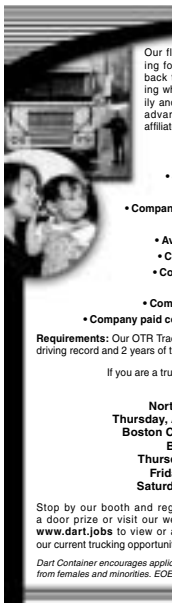

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Richard A. Klass, Esq., maintains a law firm engaged in general civil practice in Brooklyn Heights. He may be reached at (718) COURT-ST or RichKlass@courtstreetlaw.com for any questions.

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